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JUNE 1920

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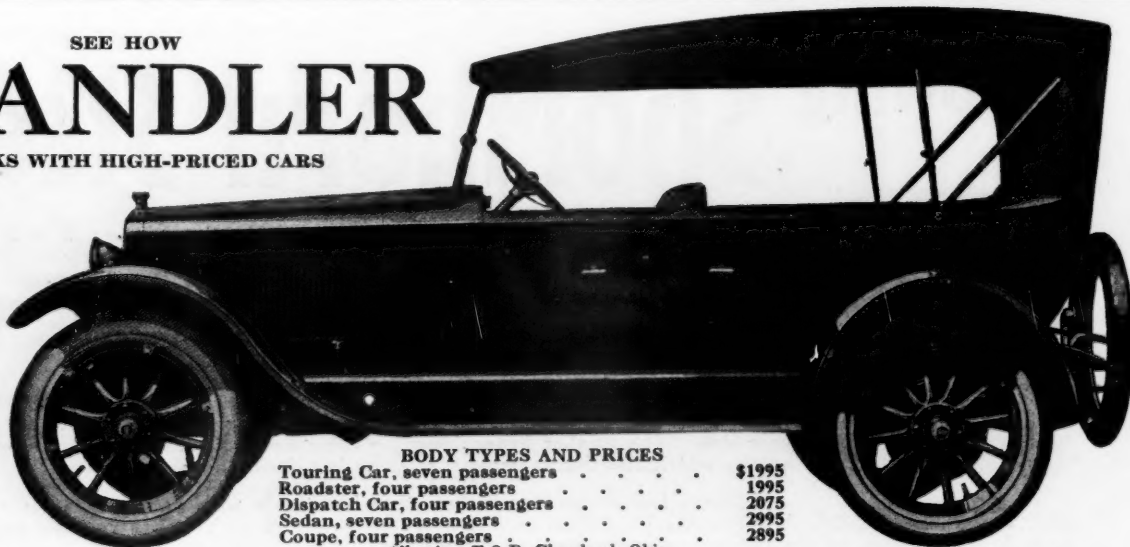
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THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume II

DENVER, COLO., JUNE, 1920

Number 1

National-Forest Agriculture

BY JOHN H. HATTON

IN AGRICULTURE, expressed in various forms, rests the security of the nation. Unlike the taking of mineral wealth, in extracting the products of the soil we only consume the interest on the principal or the coupon on the bond, leaving the bond itself intact. Farming and live-stock production are two phases of agriculture. Forestry, or the growing of trees, is another form of agriculture. It is a product of the soil in a sense differing from the ordinary acceptance of the term; nevertheless, forests are agricultural crops.

Agriculture Fostered by Liberal Land Laws

Since the advent of the Pilgrim Fathers three hundred years ago at Plymouth Rock the tendency of the nation has been agriculture-ward, as expressed in terms of farming. This tendency has been encouraged and fostered by liberal land laws—more liberal than those of any other country; perhaps too liberal in some instances, if results were to be expressed in terms of the largest number of home units.

Agriculture, thus encouraged, hewed its way through the hardwood forests of the East; it quickly absorbed the great prairies of states like Ohio, Illinois, and Iowa; it pushed on and conquered the "Great American Desert;" it has been searching out the recesses of the mountains of the West; and it is now making what appears to be its

last stand in the appropriation of the remaining public domain outside the national forests.

Until it reached into the forests and mountains of the West, differing essentially from most forested areas of the East, and undertook to compete with more uniformly adverse influences, its history was written in wonderful accomplishment. The desert has indeed been

made to "blossom as the rose." The waste places have yielded in abundance, until today we are the most prosperous of nations.

Best Use of Remaining Public Lands

But now agriculture must proceed more cautiously, if it is to make new and permanent land conquests. There must be a more careful measuring of comparative values. "What is the highest use of the remaining public lands?" is the absorbing question, and one upon which there has been, and

is now, much disagreement. This has been particularly true of the national forests.

The Department of Agriculture has undertaken to answer the question, as it relates to the national forests, in a policy of intensive land classification, made possible by the act of June 11, 1906—the so-called Forest Homestead Act. It should be stated that this act was initiated, advocated, and finally adopted through the efforts of the department itself.

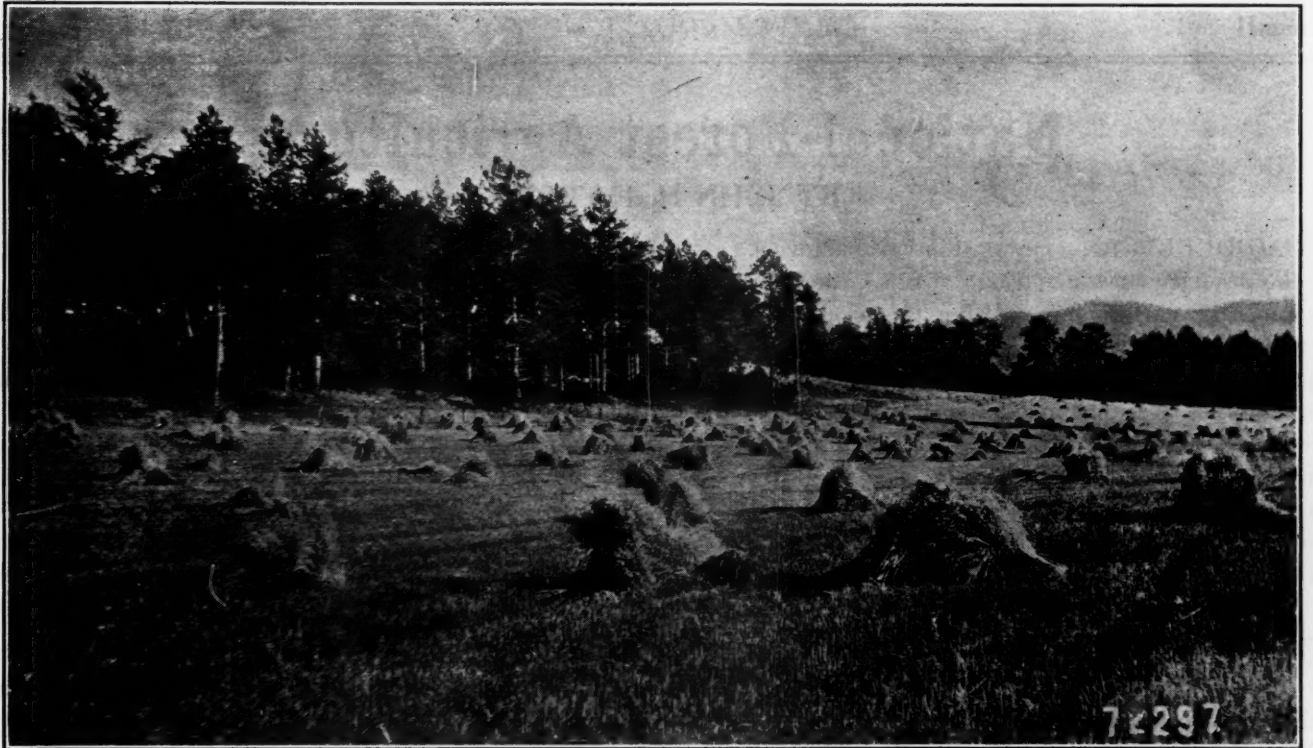


FOREST HOMESTEAD
Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota

Forest Conservation Imperative

That our forest resources are inseparably linked with all the other resources and occupations of the country needs no special assertion. The statement may be accepted as axiomatic. The forests of Germany furnished her greatest stronghold in prolonging the most terrible war in history. What an argument for the right use of present and potential forest resources! During the past twenty years there has been a careful taking of stock in this country of its natural resources. Fortunately the wisdom and vision of men like Cleveland, Harrison, and Roosevelt locked the doors of some of our

total forest area and contain one-fifth of the timber standing. Privately owned forests make up the remainder of the area and contain 80 per cent of the timber standing. More than 79,000,000 acres of the best forested lands in the United States are controlled by 1,802 owners. The total private forest ownership of the country, small and large, is in the hands of about 3,000,000 men. More than 98 per cent of the forests in private hands are devastated by destructive use and the scourge of unchecked fires, while less than 2 per cent are properly handled for successive crops or effectively protected from fire. The conservation of the public forests, while



A SUCCESSFUL HOMESTEAD
Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota

storehouses of timber while this inventory was going on. The ledger account of our natural resources in timber has shown up very badly—so badly, in fact, that it makes little difference whether the rate of consumption, and waste, and loss, will exhaust our timber supply in twenty years, or in fifty years, or in a hundred years. All these periods of time must be stricken from the forest calendar.

Our Dwindling Timber Resources

The United States now has about 500,000,000 acres of forest lands, including cut-over, devastated, and idle lands, of which 100,000,000 acres are unproductive. An area of 250,000,000 has been cut over and more or less damaged by fire, but is producing new timber in small amounts. These 500,000,000 acres constitute about one-fourth of the total area of continental United States. The original forests covered not less than 850,000,000 acres. Publicly owned forests compose one-fourth of the

a large task, is therefore the smaller one before the nation. The larger task is to induce private owners of timber—three millions of men—to take care of what they have.

So the preliminary result of this inventory has been the establishment of the national forests; all too inadequate, to be sure, to safeguard the future, but representing the nucleus around which to build a more comprehensive forest policy for the nation—a more comprehensive forest agriculture, which will include private as well as public forest holdings. This cannot longer be neglected, if posterity is to receive its proper and just heritage.

Much of Forest Land Unsited to Agriculture

There are those who, in their misguided zeal to encourage settlements and the private acquisition of forest lands, go so far as to divide some 150,000,000 acres of the national forests into 160's and state the result in

so many hundreds of thousands of homes for settlers and returned soldiers. The fallacy of such reasoning is quickly seen when we consider the millions of acres within the forests above timberline, which are important for watershed areas and which are now conservatively used for live-stock grazing during a short growing period of about three months. Picture the settler endeavoring to adapt himself to conditions which are impossible during eight or nine months of the year! Much the same con-

ditions prevail in the high mountain parks within the upper reaches of timber growth—devoid of timber, to be sure, but where killing frosts occur nearly every month of the year. Ordinary agriculture is thus precluded. The same adverse agricultural factors would prevail over the great bulk of the timbered area in the mountains of the West, even if the timber were removed; and it would be a public misfortune if such areas were not henceforth devoted to forest crops and watershed protection—to forest agriculture—and to such other uses as will not interfere with the attainment of these ends.

But within a domain of some 150 millions of acres there would naturally be found a large number of tracts at lower altitudes better suited to strictly agricultural crops and, therefore, to settlement. This would be their

highest use. The Forest Homestead Act was designed to take care of this question. There may have been errors here and there in the classification of certain tracts. Agriculture is not a stable thing. New methods and improved procedure, the introduction or importation of new or foreign species, are being constantly worked out and investigated, carrying agriculture into new fields and into new conditions which yesterday it could not successfully occupy. The need for irrigation water and

its local absence, changes in marketing facilities, in supply and demand, may also have their direct or indirect bearing on the highest use of doubtful tracts. That the application of the Forest Homestead Act within the national forests has been exceedingly liberal, however, is readily shown by carefully prepared statistics, recording the tenure and use of lands classified by the Department of Agriculture as most valuable for farming.

Many Black Hills Homesteads Unoccupied

The Black Hills National Forest of South Dakota represented perhaps more agricultural possibilities than the majority of areas of similar extent. To October, 1919, 303 forest homesteads had proceeded to patent. Of



AN UNSUCCESSFUL HOMESTEAD

A Chicken-House and a Patch of Plowed Ground—Colorado National Forest, Colorado

this number, 112 were occupied by the original entrymen and 53 by others; 138 were unoccupied. Approximately 30,000 acres are comprised in the 303 homesteads. Of this area, 6,740 acres were producing hay and 1,401 other crops, such as barley, oats, potatoes, and other hardy vegetables. Thus 45 per cent of these homesteads were resided upon and 27 per cent of the acreage was cultivated. The total settlement history of the Black Hills National Forest under all land acts allowing the acquisition of farms shows 565 entries, comprising 76,160 acres. The number occupied by original entrymen is 77; by others, 124; unoccupied, 364, or 64.4 per cent. The total area producing hay and other crops is 10,824, or 14.2 per cent.

Large Number of California Claims Abandoned

The results of settlement under the Forest Homestead Act in California are also indicative of a very liberal land-classification policy. Of 967 claims patented under the Forest Homestead Act to March 1, 1920, 194, or 20 per cent, are already abandoned, and only 16 per cent of the entire area embraced in these 967 homesteads is under cultivation, although most of the land has been occupied from five to twenty years. On March 1, 1920, there were also 632 forest homesteads pending; that is to say, filed on, but not yet patented. Twenty-two per cent of those claims are already abandoned, and only 16 per cent of the area embraced in them is under cultivation. Of the total of 346,837 acres listed under the Forest Homestead Act in California in the fourteen years since its passage, 38,774 acres, or 12 per cent, have never been filed upon.

Here are also some interesting figures for the national forests of that state on lands patented under

the various homestead acts, including the Forest Homestead Act:

Total number of patented homesteads.....	6,875	100%
Number of homesteads occupied by original entryman	1,333	19%
Number of homesteads occupied by others.....	1,710	25%
Number of homesteads unoccupied (usually abandoned)	3,832	56%
Total area of above patented homesteads (acres)	775,000	100%
Total area under some form of cultivation (acres)	75,524	9.7%

With less than 10 per cent of all patented agricultural lands within the forests of that state under cultivation, the arguments that the Department of Agriculture is locking up cultivable areas within the forests is easily answered, especially when it is known that these patented homesteads, many of which were taken twenty to forty years ago, include the cream of the farming lands within the mountains. Similar figures are of record for other states, and they furnish the best answer to the claim by some that the national forests are preventing the development of the agricultural lands within their boundaries.

National-forest agriculture, then, comprises three principal phases—forestry, live-stock uses, and farming; these three, but the greatest of these is forestry. Strictly agricultural lands should be so used, and the policy of the department in encouraging such use may be said to have been liberal to a fault. Live-stock uses make provision for some 14,000,000 animals of different kinds. But the great bulk of the mountain areas are best adapted, topographically and climatically, to forest uses and forest growth, and should be so held and employed as one of the great assets of the nation.

What Remedy Has the Stockman for His Ills?

BY DAN D. CASEMENT

Manhattan, Kansas

WHAT IS THE LOGICAL COURSE for the stockman to follow in the present unprofitable and unsatisfactory condition of his business? In order to answer this question intelligently it is necessary to take a look backward and review some of the occurrences in the industry in the past that to a certain extent bear on the present situation.

During the past twenty years the business has seen both lean and prosperous times—the former largely predominating. There have been at certain periods reasonable profits in breeding, and there have also been losses. The feeder has had his ups and downs, and the speculator and grazer has had his profitable seasons as well as his disasters. The very nature of the business,

its tremendous extent geographically, its varied phases in different localities and under different conditions, the necessary lack of co-ordination of purpose and co-operation among the followers of the industry, have all contributed to the causes that have made the production of beef one of the most hazardous and unsatisfactory industries imaginable.

Always during these times there has been intense and bitter agitation against the packer. Whenever the market broke, the resulting losses to the grower and feeder have been laid at his door. His size, his phenomenal growth, the history of his evolution, and his past conduct have been the perfectly natural and justifying causes of the accusations that, at such times, were

brought against him, and of the suspicion and distrust with which cattlemen almost universally viewed his motives and actions. Behind these conditions and at the root of their causes lay all the complicated factors responsible for the development of our wonderful industrial system. The period of this industrial development is an essential and important part of our national history, and is responsible for many of the blessings we now enjoy, as well as for many of the evils from which we now suffer. The big packer was a part of this system; his growth and expansion were normal and natural under it; his morals were the morals of the system, and those morals were the morals of the nation during a couple of decades. Now that a new conscience frowns upon old methods, it is useless to decry the occurrences of the past, foolish to clamor for restitution for the injustices that the old order practiced, and absurd to be actuated by motives of revenge against those who profited under it. We were all a part of it, and, as I have said, its outgrowth was not unmixed evil alone.

The packer was, perhaps, slower than some of the other elements of the system in recognizing that a new era had dawned. His cynical indifference to the welfare of the men who furnished his raw material continued long after other industries had noted the existence of the new conscience and had begun to square their conduct to its demands. Still, on a glutted market, the packer buyer rode late and lazily, and his satirical smile only fed the fires of suspicion and distrust in the heart of the patient and long-enduring cowman. Still, in the face of investigations instigated by both consumer and producer, and under the fire of prosecution by government, the packer persisted in his devotion to a false and outgrown theory of business. At last, with younger blood and more modern vision at the helm, he began to "get hep" to himself. In point of time this occurrence was about coincident with the organization by the American National Live Stock Association of its Market Committee, the purpose of which was to learn definitely the cause of, and supply the remedy for, all the suspicion and distrust of the packer that had for so long complicated the cattle business and unstabilized the market.

The change of front by the packer was first evinced by his avowed recognition of the kinship of his interests with those of the producer. His protestations were received with doubt. His one-time cynical buyers began to appear at our conventions with offers of friendship and co-operation, their sarcastic smiles became genial, and those of us whose suspicions were not indelible discovered that they actually had no horns. A sorry mistake was made by too many of us in failing to recognize that the new attitude of these men accurately reflected a genuine change of front on the part of their principals.

As a result of the activities of the Market Committee came the investigation and report of the Federal Trade Commission. The character of the reception accorded

this report by live-stock organizations was, I believe, a most unfortunate tactical error. The report bore all the earmarks of a case prejudged. A radical commission and a sensational attorney had, on the face of it, magnified molehills into mountains. A keen sense of justice and fair play, a frank recognition that even packers are quite human and capable of reform, a willingness to forbear and to trust a man on the look of his eye and the face of his word, would have dictated a policy far more wise and more helpful to our industry than were the unqualified indorsement of this report and the support of legislation framed on its findings.

Indeed, the refusal of this indorsement would not only have redounded to the credit of stockmen collectively as lovers of fair play and justice, but it would have come at a most opportune time psychologically to draw together in close bonds of mutual interest and co-operative effort the packer with a new vision and a new set of morals, and the cattleman empty of old suspicion and strengthened by a generous determination to forgive the past and to meet a new future justly and squarely.

The indorsement of the report, and the effort to embody in legislation many of its half-baked recommendations, have led only to a continuance of the unhappy and unprofitable wrangle that has vexed our industry for years. It has led to the Palmer decree, some of the effects of which we now view with doubt and discouragement. It has tended to widen the breach between interests that are mutually dependent, and between which there must exist confidence and good-will as prerequisites to our full and continuous prosperity.

Had the indorsement been withheld, a condition would have been created that might easily have led to the passage of needed legislation, in the way of packer supervision, which would have been to the great benefit of packer and producer alike. Such legislation might have been framed, not in the spirit of suspicion and distrust, but mutually and wisely in the common interest of both parties.

The actual occurrence has resulted only in the disruption of the producer's organized efforts and in his discouragement and embarrassment.

Is it too late for him now to right-about-face on this question and to substitute kindly sanity for envious suspicion?

I believe that even now, could we all by common consent tear up the report of the Federal Trade Commission, the Palmer decree, and the proposed legislation that aims to perpetuate it, a real cow-hand and unusual statesman in the person of Senator Kendrick, and a new packer in the person of Tom Wilson, could sit down at a table, alone and unassisted, and frame in the course of a day a bill that would speedily pass, that would be acceptable to all of us, and that would do more to clear the atmosphere of our industry than all the investigations and reports and decrees and prosecutions which have transpired in a score of years. This can never

be accomplished, however, so long as the organizations that represent us speak through the mouths of men who appear to feel that a modern packer must necessarily have the business morals of his forebears, and whose views are clouded by the memories of past wrongs and the desire for revenge and restitution for them.

Instead of wasting effort in urging legislation other than the sort above suggested, the producer had better concentrate on some plan to permit and induce the packer to distribute his product directly to the consumer. If this could be accomplished, we have no reason to doubt that the packer could retail his meat with the same economy and efficiency with which he manufactures it, and thus the producer would get a much better price for his cattle, while the consumer would pay far less for his meat than he does at present. Mr. Swift says that the retailer now gets more than a quarter of the price the consumer pays for his meat, while the packer gets only 9 per cent. It is reasonable to assume that the latter, with his immense organization, could profitably perform this retailing service at a fraction of the present cost. The fulfilment of such a plan would leave, from every pound of meat sold, approximately five cents for division between producer and consumer. This would be about the quickest and most effective remedy imaginable to cure most of the hardships and complaints of both, while the only persons it would adversely affect would be the innumerable and superfluous gentlemen with white aprons and butcher-knives who officiate behind meat-blocks at almost every corner grocery store the whole country over.

But, aside from our troubles with the packers, there is no denying that our business during the past year has happened on lean days and most disastrous times. What is a feeder to do when he is losing money on every pound of beef and pork he makes with the utmost care and intelligent economy? How can the rangeman repair the losses incident to last summer's drought, the unparalleled duration of the winter, and the blizzards of the spring? How about the big feed bill, and the transportation charges, and the contracted credits—in fact, all the clouds that hover on the cowman's immediate horizon? What is he to do about these things? The Lord only knows. But one thing is sure: His best dependence is his own sturdy spirit and determination. Government cannot help him much. To revile the packer will not help at all. It seems to be a case of grin and bear it, hard as it may be. And it is particularly discouraging to realize that our industry alone seems to be depressed among all those that are still flourishing and prosperous.

It helps only a little to recall that we had a couple of good years during the war. Such of us as enjoyed comparative prosperity then recognized that it was abnormal and largely artificial, and deeper anxieties than business cares detracted at the time from such satisfaction as we might ordinarily have felt in our success.

Now it is up to us to endure and to live through a painful period of readjustment. Its duration will probably be determined directly by the amount of care and economy and good judgment and courage and optimism we display in meeting it. It is more than probable that before the ordeal is over it will not be the stockman alone who faces a discouraging outlook. In the long run we are all in the same boat, and it will never be a permanently comfortable place for any of us unless it is a pretty good place for all of us. Endurance, faith in the future, and a firm determination to see it through appear to be a cowman's best and safest assets in these troublous times.

REPLY TO CAPTAIN CASEMENT

BY C. M. O'DONEL
Bell Ranch, New Mexico

I greatly appreciate the opportunity afforded me of reading Captain Casement's communication to THE PRODUCER in advance of its publication, and, if I venture to submit some comments on the same subject-matter, I hope it will be understood that these are not offered in a spirit of controversy or inspired by a taste for argument, but solely in an attempt to point out and explain certain divergencies of opinion which unfortunately exist between men who ought to view the problems affecting their business from the same standpoint, and among whom disunion can only cause delay in securing remedies for those ills under which all alike are suffering, and the nature of which Captain Casement has stated with great force and clearness. If I differ from him as to the nature of those remedies, or as to the means by which those remedies may be obtained, I do so in full recognition of his sincerity and high purpose. No suspicion attaches in his case that he is one of those who have lately been described, with more point than politeness, as "packerized producers."

Captain Casement holds a poor opinion of the report of the Federal Trade Commission. I suggest a simple test of the value of that report. It is only necessary to compare the sum of our knowledge on the subject of the meat-packing industry today with what it was before the report was issued. If this is not enough, I will next ask what important and material finding of the report has been successfully refuted. To the plain man in the street or in the saddle it is a matter of amazement that any producer should suggest—though only as a rhetorical point—the tearing-up of this monumental work of industry and economic research.

I must further take issue with Captain Casement on his imputation that those who favor regulation of the packing industry by legislation are actuated by motives of revenge for former wrongs. I am at a loss to know how such a charge could have been founded. If there are those whose memories are more richly stored than that of Captain Casement, it is only because they have the advantage of him in years. Some of us are old enough to remember the bad times of 1886 to 1895, when beef steers were sold on the market at about \$2.25 per cwt., and when cows were left to die on the range because the price would not cover freight and marketing expense. A large proportion of the cattle enterprises that flourished in 1885 had during the next ten years passed into history or into insolvency. But even among the survivors of that devastating decade there was singularly little waving of the bloody shirt. On the contrary, they set their hands to the present and their faces to the future with an optimism founded on no past experience, and which the event has done little to justify. But still, of personal

animosity against the packer, or a desire to "get even" with him, there has been extraordinarily little. Perhaps this is due in some degree to the very remoteness and inaccessibility of the packer, whose reaction on the producer has all the impersonal character of a natural phenomenon. One does not get angry at a blizzard or shake one's fist at a barometric pressure. I challenge Captain Casement to produce any utterance of those who speak for live-stock organizations that calls for revenge on the packer, or any evidence that their policies have been actuated by that motive.

The burden of Captain Casement's communication may be stated to be this: that the present-day packer has repented of the sins of his predecessors, that he has taken on a new business morality, and that it is the failure of the producers—or of some of them—to recognize this fact that stands in the way of an amicable settlement of all our differences. This is a most grave charge; for, if it be proved, the producers would stand convicted of obstinacy and blindness. He says: "In point of time this occurrence" (that is, the change of morals and business methods of the packers) "was almost coincident with the organization by the American National Live Stock Association of its Market Committee." It seems almost impossible to overlook it, but it does not appear to have occurred to Captain Casement that there is any relation of cause and effect between these two events. May I remind him that at that historic meeting at El Paso in 1916 the packers were well represented, that they conferred with the association's executive committee prior to the convention, and that they entirely failed to manifest at that conference either change of heart or grasp of new conditions? To this day the evidence of any such change is not apparent. Are we unreasonable if we ask for something more than a transformation of a sarcastic smile into a genial one, or the riding of a buyer a little less late and a little less lazily into a crowded market? Where and when did this miracle of casting out and of purification take place? There has been as yet no record by local reporters of a drove of swine rushing down a steep chute into the Chicago River. Does all this mean

anything at all except that our friend Dan Casement has come under the magnetic charm of Tom Wilson? What definite proposal has ever accompanied the packers' protestations of friendliness? What concrete and tangible plan has emanated from them beyond the invitation to participate in a committee on the tacit condition that legislation should be called off? Have they ever hinted as to the kind of bill they would agree to? When one bill placed the administrative power in the hands of a cabinet officer, they objected to one-man rule; when this was changed to a commission of three or five, they cried out against bureaucratic government. They have made capital out of the unpopularity of the Railroad Administration during the war, and used it to excite hostility to governmental regulation and governmental commissions with what can only by an extreme of courtesy be described as a lack of candor. They have done their best to show us that their standard of ethics is the same standard of ethics as that of their predecessors.

I charge the packers with a lack of vision. One is dazzled by the thought of the opportunities they have missed. They might today have all the breeders and feeders of the country for their friends. Instead, they have allowed generation after generation to go under. They have seen no farther than their legal right to buy as cheaply and sell as dearly as they could. With all their efficiency and their boasted brains, native and hired, they have never understood that their commanding position was in fact one of public trust; that they had no moral right to buy as cheaply as they could, because the stockman had no other market; that the prosperity of the country, the fertility of its soil, depended on the maintenance of the live-stock industry; and that some things were more important, even to their own interests, than the immediate piling-up of millions. They are now fighting with desperation against the enactment of a law which will protect their rights as well as those of the public; they are fighting it because they want no light on the dark places, and no knowledge of their affairs to go to the country except such as they choose to send out in the form of serial fiction.

The Use of Silage

BY E. L. POTTER

Professor of Animal Industry, State Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon

SILAGE IS ESSENTIALLY A ROUGHAGE. It is, therefore, comparable with hay rather than with grain. Hay differs from grain mainly in the percentage of fiber, or woody portion, that it contains. Silage contains a smaller percentage of fiber than does hay, but it has from five to ten times as much fiber, on a dry-matter basis, as grain. Silage is not suitable to feed alone, as it contains too much water and too little protein.

At the outset it must be understood that, in comparing silage with hay, we must take into consideration the conditions under which it is fed. We cannot arbitrarily say that one ton of silage is always equal to so much hay, because their comparative values vary greatly. To illustrate this with another example: I have heard stockmen say that one ton of good alfalfa was worth three or four tons of timothy or rye hay; and I have heard others say that "this alfalfa business is all non-

sense," and that at the best alfalfa was worth only 5 or 10 per cent more than timothy or rye hay. Both are right under their conditions. For fattening steers alfalfa is so much superior to timothy or rye hay that there is almost no comparison. Steers get fat on one and do not get fat on the other. When alfalfa is fed as a supplement to a heavy ration of corn, much the same thing is true. The scientist will tell you that alfalfa contains three and one-half times as much digestible protein as timothy, and that as a supplement to corn it is, therefore, worth three and one-half times as much—and he is right. On the other hand, where cattle are being wintered on just as little hay as possible quite a different condition exists. In this case the animal can use all of the nutrients in the feed, regardless of whether protein, fiber, fat, or carbohydrates. Alfalfa hay on the average contains about 6 per cent more nutrients of all kinds than timothy and 10 per cent more than rye

hay; and this is just about the difference the rangeman finds under those conditions. Keeping these things in mind, one should be neither confused nor surprised by finding that silage varies a good deal in value when compared with hay.

Silage, as is well known, contains much more water than hay, and of course less dry matter. One ton of hay contains about three and one-half times as much dry matter as one ton of silage. The silage, however, is more digestible and contains a lower percentage of fiber, so that the actual feeding value is much higher than this figure would indicate. On the basis of net energy value—which is probably the most scientific comparison—it takes a little more than two tons of silage to equal one ton of hay. In addition to this, there are other factors to be considered. Silage is more palatable than hay, and cattle consume it more readily, as a rule. It is succulent in its nature, has much of the beneficial effect of green grass, and often produces a gain larger than its total nutrients would indicate.

The Eastern Oregon Experiment Station at Union, under the superintendence of Mr. Withycombe, has conducted a series of experiments in fattening cattle through a number of years. The University of Idaho has done one year's work. I have averaged together the six years' work of the former institution and the one year's work of the latter, with the following results:

ALFALFA HAY ALONE (Average of Five Tests)			
Daily ration—	Pounds		Cents
Hay	35	Total cost of feed.....	35
Daily gain	0.93	Cost per pound of gain.	38
ALFALFA HAY AND GRAIN (Average of Six Tests)			
Daily ration—	Pounds	Total cost of feed—	Cents
Hay	30	Hay	30
Barley	4.8	Barley	15
Daily gain	1.23		45
		Cost per pound of gain.	37
ALFALFA HAY AND SILAGE (Average of Eight Tests)			
Daily ration—	Pounds	Total cost of feed—	Cents
Alfalfa	26	Alfalfa	26
Silage	21	Silage	10½
Daily gain	1.87½		36½
		Cost per pound of gain.	19

These results are significant—in fact, remarkable. Our steers on hay alone never made satisfactory gains or finish. They were never really fat when the feeding was finished, and most of the straight hay-fed cattle had to have some additional finishing before they were ready for market. There was never difference enough in finish, between the time they started and the time they finished, to justify the feed bill. The only chance of making any money on these hay-fed cattle was in an advance in the market. The cattle receiving a little grain made better gains than those on hay alone, but not good gains. As a result of these tests, we figure that one pound of barley is worth three pounds of good alfalfa hay for fattening purposes, but that, when one

can afford to feed grain at all, it pays to feed a full ration, and thus get the benefit of the heavy gains and high finish that come from full grain-feeding. The silage cattle, however, did remarkably well. Not only did they put on a lot of weight, but they were in good condition when the feeding tests ended.

Further to bring to mind the differences in gains: The gains made by the various lots on hay alone were as follows: 0.9, 0.8, 1.1, 1.2, 0.7, 1.2, 1.1 pounds. The gains on hay and the small grain ration were: 1.1, 1.3, 1.1, 1.6, 1.3, 1.4, 0.8, 1.4, 1.1, 1.6, 1.1, 1.3 pounds. It will be noted that only two tests averaged over 1.5 pounds a day, and those two only 1.6 pounds. Now note the gains made by hay and silage: 1.5, 2.1, 2.1, 1.2, 1.6, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 2.3, 2.5, 2.2 pounds. Only one of these tests went under 1.5 pounds a day, and some went as high as 2.5 pounds. If there were only one or two small tests involved, our figures would be subject to question; but with such a mass of evidence there can be no question about it. In seven tests on hay alone, even including those lots of cut hay, the largest gain was 1.2 pounds. With nine tests on hay and silage, only one was below 1.5 pounds, and they ranged from that up to 2.5 pounds.

Under such conditions, what is the comparative value of hay and silage? The answer is that there is no real comparison. The silage-fed cattle did so much better that straight hay-feeding cannot compete at all. Figuring the cost of two tons of silage as being the same as that of one ton of hay—which is surely fair enough—the cost of feeding per day was about the same. In our opinion, straight hay-feeding for fattening steers is out of date, and in five years from now it will be ancient history.

The average amount of silage was 21 pounds, and of hay 26 pounds. In the different tests the amount of silage varied from 15 to 30 pounds, and the hay to correspond. As a rule, when we add a pound more silage to the ration the steer will eat a half-pound less hay.

So far we have no evidence that the smaller amounts of silage are either better or worse than the larger amounts. We have obtained good results with all these rations, and feel that the feeder is safe anywhere within these limits. It is possible that less than 15 pounds or more than 30 pounds of silage could be fed with satisfactory results, but that is yet to be proved. Whether to use the larger or smaller amounts would depend upon the relative cost and supply of hay and silage.

These results, it must be remembered, are for fattening two-year-old steers for market. The wintering of cattle is another matter. The fact, however, that we have not obtained such sensational results with silage for wintering calves and yearlings is no indication that silage is unsuitable for that purpose. When fed in reasonable amounts, in combination with alfalfa, one ton of silage is worth one-half ton of alfalfa for wintering purposes. Silage alone, however, is not satisfactory.



It lacks the protein necessary to maintain the animal properly. For example, a lot of calves on silage alone ate 32 pounds a day, and gained only one-half as much as a similar lot getting 17 pounds of hay, or as a third lot getting 15 pounds of hay and 10 pounds of silage. Silage alone is, therefore, a good thing to let alone. By crowding the animals to the limit of their appetites, it is possible to obtain larger gains with silage and hay than with hay alone, just as with fattening steers; but that is no advantage, since by crowding with alfalfa alone it may be possible to make more gains than it is profitable to try to make on a wintering calf or yearling.

Silage as a supplement to straw is not what might be expected. The cattle consume more feed than when fed on straw alone; but the real deficiency in this case is protein, and silage is a very poor source of protein. Cottonseed cake or oil cake is a much better supplement to straw than silage.

Silage for wintering purposes should, therefore, be used along with some hay, and preferably alfalfa. When so used, one ton of silage is worth one-half ton of alfalfa hay. The question is: Under what conditions should silage be grown for wintering purposes? Its chief advantage lies in the fact that it is often possible with silage to increase the number of cattle that can be wintered from an acre. In the Blue Mountain country—especially in Grant and Wheeler Counties and the adjacent areas—there are many little fertile valleys, too small to grow much hay, yet very rich, and which can be made much richer by manuring. Such patches are ideal for silage. Manure is abundant on most stock ranches, and is often wasted. Put on a little patch of corn for silage, it will do wonders toward increasing the number of cattle that can be wintered. Again, in many sections dry-land hay is the chief source of winter feed. Sunflower silage will produce so much more feed than rye or barley hay that there is no comparison. Sunflower silage is perhaps not quite so good as corn silage, but it is a great feed just the same.

The problem of more winter feed is the biggest one before the cattlemen of the Northwest today. The answer is plain and certain—it is **SILAGE**.

MEAT-PACKING LEGISLATION

In the Senate

DISCUSSION of the pending meat-packing legislation was precipitated in the Senate on May 19 by Senator Kenyon as a result of the reported decision of the Steering Committee not to consider this measure, along with certain others, at the session which has just closed. On May 21 Senator Kendrick delivered a very exhaustive and convincing address in support of this legislation, and on May 28 an agreement was reached in the Senate whereby the Gronna bill became unfinished business at 2 o'clock P. M. on June 5, the day of adjournment. This means that when the Senate

meets again the Gronna bill will be the first to come up for consideration.

In the House

The subcommittee of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives which has had under consideration a new meat-packing bill for more than a month, finally reported to the full committee on June 3, and it was decided to make that measure a continuing order of business for first consideration at the opening of the new session. Congressman Sydney Anderson, of Minnesota, who has been an active advocate of this legislation, and who introduced the original Anderson bill, on June 3 formally introduced in the House a new bill, known as H. R. 14387, which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture. This bill is understood to embody the recommendations of the subcommittee, and will be definitely acted upon by the full committee immediately upon the reconvening of Congress. In its theory of regulation it differs somewhat both from the former Anderson bill and from the Gronna bill. Briefly summarized, the provisions of the new bill are as follows:

It places the regulation of packers under the jurisdiction of the Federal Trade Commission, with proper court review of the decisions of the commission, and with penalties for violation; it prohibits any unlawful practices, and defines what will be considered such.

It places stock-yards handling annually 150,000 or more head of cattle or 500,000 or more head of hogs, and the commission men and traders at such yards, under the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission; that commission is directed to determine the stock-yards which come within the foregoing definition, and to give notice to that effect; after thirty days every commission man or dealer at such stock-yards must register, if he desires to conduct any business in that line. All stock-yard and commission charges, practices, and regulations must be just, reasonable, and non-discriminatory; all schedules of charges shall be filed with the commission; the commission may enter upon a hearing of any charge, regulation, or practice, either upon complaint or upon its own initiative; after full hearing it may prescribe what will be a just and reasonable rate, charge, or practice; provision is made for enforcement of orders of the commission through the courts.

It eliminates the voluntary-registration feature of the old Anderson and the present Gronna bills.

The main difference between the Gronna bill now pending in the Senate and the Anderson bill before the House is that the former provides for the regulation of packers, stock-yards, commission men, and dealers through a federal live-stock commission, while the latter bill is designed to accomplish the regulation of the packers through the Federal Trade Commission, and the stock-yards, commission men, and dealers through the Interstate Commerce Commission, without the creation of a new commission. Both bills recognize the necessity of regulation—their difference lies in the methods of attaining the desired end.

"Of course, you know you are publishing a mighty good journal, and one that fills a long-felt want in the live-stock world. I have enjoyed every issue, and hope to be a patron as long as I read."—W. M. Marteny, Tucson, Ariz.

POLICY OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD AS TO LOANS ON LIVE STOCK

INABILITY to finance live-stock loans has been the big problem confronting stockmen during the past sixty days. Protests filed at Washington have brought a modicum of relief, but the situation is yet far from satisfactory. The West is being discriminated against in the progressive rediscount rate and in the failure of the Federal Reserve Board to allot adequate funds to take care, even in part, of normal demands on live-stock paper. The following letter from Governor Harding, of the Federal Reserve Board, to Senator John B. Kendrick contains the latest information as to the policy of the board in the matter of live-stock and agricultural loans:

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

WASHINGTON,

May 22, 1920.

MY DEAR SENATOR KENDRICK:

Referring to your call at my office this morning in regard to the policies of the Federal Reserve Board, I have to say the following:

1. The Federal Reserve Board is on record in most unmistakable terms in favor of increased production of essential articles of food and clothing. It has repeatedly stated that there is nothing more essential than our meat supply, and that the cattle industry is one of primary importance and should be sustained at all hazards.
2. The federal reserve banks in the cattle-raising districts have been advised of this view of the board, and have been told that, in restricting loans for nonessential and less essential production, they should not restrict accommodations to cattle loans and other loans necessary for the production of essential articles of food, and for the distribution of these articles.
3. The federal reserve banks of the cattle-raising districts have been advised that, should their own reserves fall off, they will be restored by rediscounts with other federal reserve banks, made, if necessary, by order of the Federal Reserve Board. Thus the resources of all federal reserve banks will be placed at the disposal of any federal reserve bank needing additional resources for highly essential loans.
4. A conference was held by the Federal Reserve Board on Tuesday, the 18th instant, with the Federal Advisory Council, composed of one representative banker from each federal reserve district, and with the Class A, or banker, directors of the federal reserve banks. Its views, as stated above, were explained to this conference, and were unanimously indorsed. It was developed in this conference that the credit strain in the West is due largely to lack of transportation facilities, thus making it impossible for farmers who are holding large amounts of grain and live stock ready for market to move them. A committee was appointed to wait on the Interstate Commerce Commission and to present the facts to that body. Following representations made to the Interstate Commerce Commission by the committee appointed at the federal reserve conference, the Interstate Commerce Commission, acting under authority given it in the new law, issued an order directing that priorities be given to the movement of grain and fuel. Large numbers of empty cars are now on the way to the farmers in the West, and it is expected that the congestion of grain in that section will soon be relieved. This will release the large volume of credit which is now tied up, and will give member and non-member banks available funds to lend to cattle interests.

5. The federal reserve banks cannot deal directly with farmers and cattle-raisers. They can only rediscount eligible loans which have been made to live-stock men and farmers by member banks. It is necessary, therefore, to call the attention of all banks in the cattle-raising districts to the importance of fostering this most essential industry, and it is confidently believed that an adequate response will be made. Meanwhile, with every prospect of early relief in sight, it is highly desirable that the cattle-raisers should hold their grip, and that their creditors should give them reasonable extensions in order that they may do so. The sacrifice of breeding cattle and young calves at this time would result in a most serious shortage of meat later on, which shortage must be avoided at any cost.

6. The Federal Reserve Board will exert every effort to promote the extension of needed credit to all legitimate enterprises—the live-stock interests in particular—to enable them to increase the production of highly essential articles.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) WM. P. G. HARDING,
Governor.

Of possible interest to our readers may be the following extract from a recent letter from Governor Harding, dated May 20, to the secretary of the American National Live Stock Association:

... The federal reserve banks have been notified that they should do all in their power, by the rediscount of cattle paper for member banks, to support this interest [the cattle industry]. The federal reserve banks, however, cannot make loans direct to the cattlemen, and the only way in which they can assist is to rediscount eligible loans which have been made by member banks to cattlemen. If you know of any case where a federal reserve bank has refused to discount eligible cattle paper for a member bank, you are earnestly requested to bring the facts to the attention of the board.

If the actions of the Federal Reserve Board and its member banks squared with these fine assurances and this laudable solicitude for the live-stock industry, no stockman in the West would raise his voice in criticism. Since the honorable governor wrote his letter, however, the discount rate in the West has been advanced one per cent, and the progressive rediscount scheme is still being continued in some of the western districts.

Ever since its creation by Congress the Federal Reserve Board has shown a surprising lack of understanding of the ordinary requirements of the live-stock industry of this country. Committees of stockmen have repeatedly journeyed to Washington for the purpose of attempting to bring about modifications in some unworkable ruling of the board with respect to live-stock loans. When the board recently inaugurated its policy of restricting credits, the distinction between nonessential and essential loans was apparently so loosely drawn that live-stock paper was among the first to be hit. It was practically impossible to rediscount it. The regulations of the Tenth Federal Reserve District at Kansas City, if enforced, would mean the practical stoppage of all live-stock loans in certain sections. Some of the influential members of the Federal Reserve Board at Kansas City vigorously opposed the application of the progressive rediscount-rate plan, but were overruled.

Since the Federal Reserve Board started on its cam-

paigned of deflation, the daily press has been filled with statements of how that board has curbed speculation, not only on Wall Street, but also in other nonessential channels. For a while call-money rates on Wall Street advanced and declined with startling rapidity—difficult to explain or understand. Speculation has not been curbed, and call-money rates have settled down to but little more than the normal average.

The progressive rediscount rates, if applied in the East, would soon have accomplished what the Federal Reserve Board desired—namely, a restriction of speculation and of nonessential loans. However, it was not tried in the East. The only district that put into effect this system at the beginning was the Tenth Federal Reserve District at Kansas City. It is now being tried in the Dallas, Texas, district, and, if no disaster follows, it will probably be saddled on to the St. Louis district. If this system is all right for Kansas City and the intermountain region, why should it not be applied in all other districts, and particularly in the East, where speculation and speculative undertakings have been running rampant? Rumor says that it was not enforced in the East because it was feared it might precipitate a panic—that the borrowers in the East, with their large loans, could not stand the prohibitive rediscount rates which would result under the operation of that plan. Evidently the Kansas City district was considered in a sufficiently sound financial condition to stand the effects of this progressive advance in interest rates. This particular territory did not enjoy any special war profits, and it has not been engaged in speculative undertakings—*ergo* it could stand higher rates than Wall Street and the East. What is sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander. The Federal Reserve Board started out to eliminate gambling and speculative flotations; it finished by penalizing the basic industries of the country, thus lending color to the charge, recently made by Senator Owen and repeatedly voiced by others, that Wall Street and the East have the inside on the policy of the Federal Reserve Board.

The government is now being asked to deposit some of its funds in the federal reserve bank in Kansas City, so as to take care of agricultural and live-stock loans. This would be a sensible way of relieving a very strained situation.

HEARINGS ON PROPOSED INCREASE IN RAILROAD FREIGHT RATES

ON MAY 24 the Interstate Commerce Commission began hearings at Washington on the application of the carriers for the increase in freight rates referred to on page 23 of the May PRODUCER. It is planned to hear first the evidence of the carriers in Official Classification Territory, then those in Southern Classification Territory, and lastly those in Western Classification Territory.

In its notice fixing the date of the hearings the commission says:

It is not deemed necessary that before proceeding with hearings on these applications the commission shall determine the aggregate property values for these several and respective groups which it will use in carrying out the provisions of section 15 (a). It is deemed desirable and important that hearings on these applications shall be had at an early date.

There is an undisputed shortage of cars and locomotives, and stockmen and farmers are being daily penalized on that account. If an advance in freight rates is absolutely necessary to allow the carriers a reasonable return, the quicker the matter is settled the better.

The executive committee of the National Live Stock Shippers' Protective League, at its meeting in Chicago on May 8, 1920, adopted a resolution directing the officers of the league—

1. To investigate the proposed advances of rates on live-stock shipments, and ascertain as near as may be the comparative cost of the service, taking pre-war rates prescribed by the commission and relative cost of the service on such traffic, then and at present, and the character and value of the service, and loss and damages from poor service, then and now; and to make public the results of the investigation, and their conclusion as to the right and propriety of any advance, and, if any, the amount required under the new law, and what the revenue should be derived from, to be the basis of rate advances.

2. To investigate the financial and credit situation of the carriers, and prepare and make public such results as they may arrive at, which support or meet the propaganda or publicity campaign now carried on by the railroads as the basis for the billion-dollar increase in gross earnings.

3. To take up with other shipping organizations the matter of preparing evidence for use before the Interstate Commerce Commission, to enable it to determine, from the viewpoints of both shippers and carriers, how great an advance, if any, should be made on live stock.

4. To prepare for presentation to the press of the country the reasons for limiting advances of rates on live stock to a minimum, and for getting from other sources the additional revenue that may be found necessary.

5. It is the unanimous view of the executive committee of this league that whatever advances are made should be equitably applied to all revenue-producing traffic, including both freight and passenger.

6. It is our opinion that rates on live stock and farm products should not be advanced to such an extent as would reduce the production and increase the cost of the food products of the nation. We believe that would be economically unsound and against the interests of producers, consumers, and the carriers themselves; for we are persuaded that the least burden on production and the best assurance of profit by it are the salvation, both of the people and of the railroads, from the calamity of still higher prices, accompanied by scarcity, and that for a time the carriers can better afford to take less than normally they would be entitled to receive, in order that they may be put on a surer footing for the future, with the cost of living reduced, and the consequent ability to reduce the enormous labor cost which is said to underlie the demand for increased rates.

We believe there is no right of railroads to earn profits which is superior to the right of live-stock raisers, producers, and farmers to be able to have some reward and return from their investment and labor. We do not think the law gives any right to the railroads or other interests which is denied to the producers from the farm and ranch.

7. We advocate an increase in the revolving fund to such an extent as may be found necessary by the proper authorities to enable the railroads to produce the equipment and facilities required for the economical and efficient handling of transportation.

8. If these additional facilities are efficiently handled, it will eliminate the necessity for continued rate advances in the future.

It is the belief of this committee, and of shippers generally, that there is a great lack of efficiency in the operation and economical use of existing equipment and facilities, which should be corrected in order to reduce operating expenses, rather than add continually to the overburdened traffic of the country by increased rates.

In past issues we have frequently remarked that in the so-called intermountain region the needs of the carriers for increased revenue are not so urgent as in other sections of the country. The average scale of freight rates now prevailing in that territory is sufficiently high to yield a substantial return with reasonable operating efficiency.

THE OREGON MEETING

ON MAY 24-25 the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon held its seventh annual convention at Burns—an interior town of about 1,200 people in the very heart of the open range country of the state, and forty miles from the nearest railroad. The meeting was well attended and was declared to be the most successful ever held by that splendid organization. There were many interesting addresses, and much discussion of the problems now confronting the live-stock industry. The outstanding fact of the convention was the grim determination of the stockmen present to take some steps to improve marketing conditions, to restrict production, and to secure such prices for cattle as will yield at least the cost of production. The past two seasons, with drought, unusually severe winter weather, and resultant losses and high prices for hay and other feeds, together with the declining market, have caused such heavy financial sacrifices to Oregon stockmen that they are well-nigh disheartened and are seeking for some relief and protection. Among the plans suggested were curtailment of the production of cattle and the inauguration of a marketing agency to control shipments. Some stockmen advocated the plan of not shipping to market, and thus forcing the buyers for packing-houses to buy in the country. It was the general opinion that herds should be reduced by the elimination of all inferior animals, and that only such numbers should be kept as there were ample range and winter feed to take care of. Oregon stockmen are fully convinced that they cannot pay \$20 or more for winter hay and secure a profit when they market their stock. Other sections of the West have come to the same conclusion.

In the discussions of the convention there was frequent reference to the wide spread between what the cattleman receives and what the consumer pays for beef products. Various remedies to cure this condition were suggested. Retail profiteering, packer control of prices, and other market evils were bitterly assailed wherever a cluster of stockmen got together and aired their troubles.

The convention unanimously indorsed the efforts of the American National Live Stock Association to secure better marketing conditions through regulation of the meat-packing industry and market instrumentalities, and pledged its continued support to that body. The association directed its secretary to extend to Senators Chamberlain and McNary, as well as to Oregon's delegation in the House of Representatives, the

thanks of the association for their support of the pending meat-packing legislation.

Of general interest also was the action of the convention in favor of the creation of a market commission. On this question the following resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS, The State Taxpayers' League of Oregon is now initiating a bill that will appear on the ballot at the next November election, creating a market commission, the object of which will be to assist in the marketing of all farm products; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association indorse the work of the State Taxpayers' League in trying to secure better market conditions for farm products."

At the convention of the Oregon association held at Bend in April, 1919, it was decided, as a trial, to subscribe for THE PRODUCER for one year for all the members of that organization. Their appreciation of this magazine, and their decision to continue their subscriptions as a permanent matter, are shown in the following resolution, which was unanimously passed:

"WHEREAS, The American National Live Stock Association has for the past year published THE PRODUCER—a monthly magazine devoted to the interests of the live-stock industry; and

"WHEREAS, This monthly publication has been found most valuable in the information it has given, and we believe it has been a wonderful benefit to the stock-raisers of Oregon, and that it should continue to be in the hands of every member of this association; therefore be it

"Resolved, That, of the annual dues collected by this association, \$1 from each member shall be by our secretary set aside for paying for THE PRODUCER, and that the entire amount of \$1 shall be remitted to the publishers of THE PRODUCER as the annual subscription for said monthly publication for each member of this association."

Other resolutions adopted were to the following effect:

Directing the president to appoint a committee of five to report to the executive committee on plans for co-operative marketing under the proposed market commission bill;

Approving the pure-bred law, and pledging support toward its enforcement;

Demanding the same inspection of live stock driven out of the state as on shipments handled by the carriers;

Favoring curtailment in production of cattle by eliminating scrub animals and reducing herds to the basis of the ample carrying capacity of the available range, and pasture and hay for winter feed;

Opposing the creation of a bird reserve in the Malheur Lake territory;

Protesting against highway work and other public improvements during the harvest season;

Recommending certain changes in forest-reserve regulations in the Lake County district, so that the division of the range may be made on natural and topographical lines;

Opposing any increase in grazing fees on national forests;

Asking for the same rules and regulations regarding valuation of live stock shipped intrastate as now prevail on interstate shipments through Oregon;

Favoring an extension of the time limit for the return of caretakers;

Creating the office of assistant to the president, so as to relieve the president of some of his duties.

William Pollman, of Baker, who has been president of the association since its organization seven years ago, was re-elected president. George H. Russell, of Prineville, was elected first vice-president; H. A. Brattain, of Paisley, second vice-president; William Doby, of Baker, treasurer; S. O. Correll, of Baker, secretary. The next annual meeting will be held at Canyon City, Oregon.

* * *

ANNUAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT POLLMAN

A year ago, at Bend, I gave it as my opinion that this was not a good time to extend our cattle business, and that every raiser of cattle should take care of his breeding stock and provide for the natural increase of his herd.

So far as range conditions are concerned, together with the shortage and unusually high prices of feed, and the slump in prices of fat cattle, the past year has been one of the worst that I have ever known in the cattle business. Taken as a whole, I believe there has never been a time when so much

money was lost by cattle-raisers and cattle-feeders in any one year.

While we in Oregon have been much more fortunate than the people of our neighboring states—Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming—we have had our share of losses, and the future at the present time does not look any too bright, for the reason that buyers of cattle in those sections which are now short of breeding stock and young steers are having a hard time to finance themselves in order to restock their range. On a recent trip through Texas I learned that there had been very few buyers from the North making purchases, and that a great many half-fat cattle will be marketed by the grower, who in former years has sold his stock to northern buyers to be matured and fattened. In former years there has always been a good demand for Oregon stock to go into Montana, Dakota, and Wyoming. This year there have been very few inquiries, and very few cattle sold to be shipped out. This, with the normal increase, leaves our ranges stocked to the limit, with no possibility of marketing our cattle except as beef; and the beef outlook for the coming summer is not especially bright. But I believe that it would be advisable for our stockmen to market as many of their cattle as they find necessary in order to reduce their herds to such numbers as they can winter without too much expense. It is certain that, unless feed conditions change, there will be but few cattle fed for beef in Oregon the coming winter.

Throughout the Corn Belt there is a movement on foot among feeders to feed but 50 per cent of the cattle fed last year. Should this be the case, the demand for feeders this fall will be much less than it has been for years.

We who are in the cattle business must not be discouraged, but do our best to conduct our business in such manner that the loss, if any, will be reduced to a minimum. This can be done by watching our expense account, and marketing our cattle when they are ready to go. Prices for beef are still, and will continue to be, much higher than we received a few years ago—and money was made out of cattle then.

Now I wish to say a few words about the money situation. While in the East recently, in talking with the large cattle-loan companies, the banks, and the Federal Reserve Bank officers, I was told that every effort would be made to take care of the stock-grower and farmer, in order that there might be no shortage of production; but that, on the other hand, an attempt would be made to curtail the nonessentials and speculative ventures of every kind, for the purpose of aiding in bringing business back to a normal condition. Up to the present time there has been a great inflation of values in all lines of business, and it is realized that something must be done to avert a panic. There are today many banks in the United States, which never before found it necessary to rediscount paper, that are now doing this to a large extent. Interest rates have been advanced by the Federal Reserve Banks far beyond anything that was ever thought of a year ago; and yet, in the face of this, the demand for money is far greater than the supply. However, I believe that the situation is well in hand, and by the end of the present year conditions should be so adjusted that we should have no further trouble, and the cattleman today who is handling his cattle on conservative lines will have no difficulty in getting what money he will need to conduct his business.

Our association for the coming year has more work before it than it has ever had since its organization. Conditions now are such that we must all pull together in such a way as to get the most out of our live stock. The coming year will be a trying time for the majority of cattlemen, and anything that can be done to lighten the burden will be done only through co-operation. This is a time when nothing should be overlooked, and when we can ill afford any loss, however small, that may be avoided.

The labor situation at present looks discouraging, for the reason that so few men now want to go to the ranch and stay. They find plenty of work at or near the towns, where they can spend their nights and their money.

I believe the worst handicap we have to contend with is the present road work in progress over the state. I have noticed everywhere I have been that truck-loads of men are taken out to work in the morning and brought back at night, which seems to be what the men desire. This it is impossible for us to do as ranchers. I believe that the convention should pass a resolution requesting that all road work in farming countries be suspended during harvest, so that labor may be had when needed by the rancher during haying and grain harvest. Good roads are a good thing; but when this work interferes to the extent it is now doing with the production of the essentials of everyday life, it should and must come second. For that reason I urge that some action be taken.

The following extracts from the address of Walter M. Pierce, of La Grande, Oregon, before the convention are of more than local interest:

ADDRESS OF WALTER M. PIERCE

Nature has provided Oregon with a generous amount of feed. We have improved upon nature's gifts by irrigating vast tracts, for the raising of alfalfa and other grasses, that produce vastly more than the original wild meadows. Our original grass on plain and mountain has not improved, however, but has, on the contrary, deteriorated, and is today probably in the lowest condition that it has ever been.

The summer range can be improved by fencing and rotation; that is, by allowing the cattle on different portions of the range at different seasons. Very little, however, has been accomplished in this respect. The profits of the cattlemen have been so meager, and it has been so difficult for the producer of beef in Oregon to make ends meet, that he has often neglected opportunities which would have benefited the range.

Each succeeding winter seems to grow more difficult. Three years ago many stockmen fed almost six months. Few of us believed then that we should experience another such winter as that of 1916-17. But the man who had cattle on the range in the summer of 1919, brought them through till fall in a poor and weakened condition, and then faced a long, wearisome feed through the winter just closed, cannot help feeling discouraged. My own band of cattle I fed a hundred and eighty days, including the April storms.

There is no money made on stock cattle when they are in the feed-yards. On the contrary, there is a continued loss each day. What little profit we make comes out of the summer and fall range. During the wonderful period of prosperity through which we have just passed, every other line of business felt the advantage of improved prices more than the cattle business; and when the break came it came first to the producer of beef.

Today every stockman must admit that something has to be done if Oregon is to retain its place as a cattle state. It is my belief that the first thing to do is to reduce the size of our cattle herds. We are producing too many cattle for the amount of grass we have. We are eating the grass too closely each summer and fall. I believe that we ought to reduce our cattle herds 25 per cent. It does not pay to keep a hungry cow brute. If our bands were reduced one-quarter, we could stay on our summer and fall ranges longer. In fact, we ought to stay on these ranges until we are driven into the feed-pens by the fall snows.

While I am a firm advocate of the reduction of herds, I believe we can increase the size of the animal at least 10 per cent by careful selection of mothers and sires.

Feeding for the market has proved so disastrous to so many of us in recent years that I am loath to advise anyone to feed cattle. Still I think we ought to do so, and thereby sort over our own breeding cows. Notwithstanding the fact that we shall probably face falling prices this winter, I believe that we ought to take all our undersized cows, or a sufficient number of them to reduce our herds materially, and feed them, even if we have to buy the feed.

The cattle speculator we shall always have with us, but the cattle-raiser is the backbone of our business, and it is to that class that I am particularly addressing myself.

Our winters have been breaking us. Our winter feed has been by far too costly. No cattleman can pay \$20 a ton for hay, or even \$10. It is not in the game.

For three years I have fed quite a quantity of cottonseed cake. It costs me a little over \$80 a ton. At such prices it cannot be fed by cattlemen, especially to stock cattle, except in cases of emergency; but I cannot conceive how I could have saved my little band of about a thousand head during the terrible snows of last April, had I not had in reserve a few hundred sacks of cottonseed cake. The greatest difficulty in feeding cake is in distributing it equitably.

Alfalfa is undoubtedly the king of winter feeds for cattle, and the cattleman should either raise a sufficient quantity for himself for his winter feed, or know where he is going to get it and the price he is going to pay. And that price must be decidedly less than \$10 a ton. I believe that many a cattleman would have been better off if he had killed his entire herd last October and sold the hides for what he could get.

Can the cattle business be made profitable? This question may be answered truthfully by both yes and no. It cannot be made profitable if we more than eat out our range every year, and are obliged to buy twenty- to forty-dollar hay and eighty-dollar cake, selling our product in a controlled market where the price is depressed just when we are ready to dispose of our

stock. There are many places in Oregon admirably adapted to cattle-raising. There are thousands of farmers who can profitably carry a few cattle on their ranches in the winter, and localities where the cattle can profitably be placed in the mountains in the summer time. We must not give up the business. Oregon must continue to be a state producing beef in quantities. With the readjustment of our herds to a basis where we shall always have a little surplus grass, with better sires, and larger and better breeding cows, at the head of our herds, and with adequate provision for wintering, we can produce the beef animal at a profit, provided we can get a reasonable percentage of the amount of the money paid by the consumer of the beef and hide. In other words, we must get more money for our products.

It is asserted on competent authority that the packers during the last twelve months have spent more than \$5,000,000 in advertising. They have often used entire pages, for instance, in the *Saturday Evening Post*, a single issue of which costs \$12,000. Their propaganda has appeared in practically every weekly and monthly throughout the country, as well as in the metropolitan daily press. The object of this propaganda has been to convince the people that the packers have made but a very few cents on each dollar of business transacted, and that they are the greatest philanthropists of the age. They cannot convert the man who raises the cattle and breasts the storms of Oregon; but we should not forget that they are winning over the great mass of consumers, large numbers of whom believe today that the cattlemen are the robbers, and not the trust. . . .

I am well aware that there is much discontent among the cattlemen of Oregon. There is so much dissatisfaction and unrest that the soil is ripe for any sort of propaganda which promises relief. I know that many of our people are advocating state-owned packing plants, and state-owned and state-operated centers for the distribution of fresh and cured meat. Many cattlemen have told me that they were ready to join the Non-partisan League of North Dakota, or any other organization that would furnish, or promise to furnish, relief from the iron grip of the packing trust which so thoroughly and completely dominates our markets.

The State Taxpayers' League of Oregon is now initiating a bill to create a state market commission. Petitions will be in circulation in a very few days in practically every large town in Oregon. This bill was before the last regular session of the legislature, but was defeated by certain commission interests in Portland. The State Taxpayers' League, of which I have the honor of being president, is making an effort to have this bill put on the ballot in November. The object of the commission is to gather information as to supply and demand, so that we cattlemen may know what the actual facts are. It will act as an adviser in co-operative business; it will assist co-operative organizations; it will encourage the inspection, labeling, storage, and sale of products; it will promote in every way the interests of the producer and the distributor, so that the products raised on the farm may reach the consumer without the tremendous profits now exacted by the packer and the middleman. If the bill becomes a law, we can organize in this state, among cattle-producers, a co-operative plan of marketing our products; and, if necessary, we can, under the protection which this law will give us, even have our own beeves slaughtered in Portland, and distributed to the consumers, without fear of the big packers combining to ruin our co-operative enterprise, as they have so often done in the last few years in many different places in the United States.

The Department of Justice of the United States should see to it that every provision of the celebrated packer consent decree be strictly enforced. What a relief it will be when the packing combination retires from the ownership of stock-yards and market newspapers! To this should be added the celebrated Gronna bill, which has been pending in Congress for many months. Then give us the market-commission bill in Oregon next November, and let the executive committee of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association appoint a special committee to outline a plan for co-operative marketing.

We believe that this organization can be made so perfect that the man who produces the fat steer will at least be allowed to tell the purchaser what it has cost him to produce that animal—a right denied by the packer in years gone by. The organization may become so strong that, if necessary, we can slaughter our own animals in Portland, and turn them over to co-operative organizations, the formation of which can and will be encouraged by the market commission.

"THE PRODUCER is the best live-stock paper I have ever seen."—C. W. Horr, Douglas, Wyo.

CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

AN IMPORTANT MEETING was held May 18 in San Francisco, when the price situation was discussed from every angle by packers and representatives of the California Cattlemen's Association. The following is a brief summary of statements made and conclusions reached:

1. Prices are extremely low to cattle-producers, while consumers are still paying the old rates.
2. To remedy this situation, cattlemen should hold on to their stock as long as they have feed, and when feed runs short they should ship to other states where feed is available. It was suggested that Montana was in the market for feeder stock, that state being 60 per cent short on its range cattle.
3. Packers urged that under no circumstances should cattlemen ship their stock to San Francisco on consignment, because such shipments invariably pull prices down, not only for the individual consignment, but for all sales during that period. It was explained that the receiver of the consignment, having no interest in getting a higher price, let the stock go for anything he could get.
4. The sending of half-fat cattle to market was deplored as a menace to the industry. This practice, it was declared, ruined the market for prime cattle. Such half-fat cattle should remain on the ranches, or be shipped to Montana and other points needing feeder stock.
5. Fred H. Bixby, president of the association, said that present market conditions were abnormal, and that, in his opinion, they would right themselves if cattlemen would refrain from glutting the market at this time.
6. It was the consensus of all present that there was no oversupply of cattle on the all-year basis, but that present troubles were due partly to the effort of too many producers to sell their stock at one season.
7. It was predicted that next fall would see a serious reduction in the number of cattle on hand in California, and a resultant shortage of beef during the fall and winter.
8. Packers asserted that they had lost from \$5 to \$35 a head on cattle killed during the first four months of 1920, and for this reason they were somewhat wary of contracting now for cattle to be delivered in May, June, and July.

REPARATION IN AN OLD LIVE-STOCK CASE

A CASE in which reparation claims aggregating more than \$150,000 are involved was decided in favor of the shippers by the United States Supreme Court, May 17, when it reversed the decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals and affirmed the judgments of a lower court in Nos. 137 to 145, inclusive, *E. B. Spiller vs. A., T. & S. F., Chicago & Eastern Illinois, Chicago & Alton, Missouri Pacific, St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern, St. Louis & San Francisco, Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, Illinois Central, and the M., K. & T.*

There were two main questions involved in the cases, which date back to 1904, when the original case was instituted by the Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas. One was whether Spiller (who was then secretary of that association, as he is today), as assignee, was entitled to recover, and the other was whether there was sufficient evidence before the Interstate Commerce Commission to sustain the awards made by it. The court held that Spiller was entitled to recover, saying: "We find nothing in the letter or the spirit of the law inconsistent with such assignability." As to the sufficiency of the evidence the court said that "the evidence upon the whole was sufficient to sustain" the findings.

In February, 1904, the Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas petitioned the Interstate Commerce Commission under section 13 of the Commerce Act, alleging that rates on cattle were unjust and unreasonable, the rates having been increased 3 cents per hundred pounds in most cases. On August 16, 1905, the commission held that the existing rates were unreasonable by the amount of the advance. At the time the commission was not empowered to prescribe rates for the future, this power having been conferred by the Hepburn act, which became effective August 28, 1906. On the following day the Cattle Raisers' Association reopened the case, to the end that reasonable

rates might be established. On April 14, 1908, the commission decided that the former rates should be restored, but that reparation would not be allowed on claims accruing prior to August 29, 1906. The reduced rates were put into effect November 17, 1908.

The shipments of cattle involved moved from points of origin in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, and Kansas to destinations at Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago, St. Joseph, and New Orleans, between August 29, 1906, and November 17, 1908. The reparation order was issued January 12, 1914.

In the trial court a test case was passed upon, and the awards of the commission were sustained. The Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the trial court for the reasons stated; namely, that Spiller was not entitled to recover as assignee, and that there was not sufficient evidence.

The court said there was substantial evidence that the complainants had been subjected to excessive charges, and that the charge that the evidence failed to show who owned the cattle shipped or who paid the freight "cannot be sustained."

The court further said that the principal defense before the commission was that the payment of a published rate afterwards decided to have been excessive was not evidence that the party who paid the freight sustained damage to the extent of the excess. The Circuit Court of Appeals sustained this contention, but the Supreme Court said that it had ruled otherwise in *Southern Pacific Co. vs. Darnell-Taenzler Co.*, 245 U. S., 531-534, and that the Circuit Court of Appeals withdrew this part of its finding in the case.

As to the right of Spiller to recover as assignee, the court quoted the commission's conference ruling No. 362, of June 4, 1912, which was as follows: "In awarding reparation, the commission will recognize an assignment by a consignor to a consignee or by a consignee to a consignor, but will not recognize an assignment to a stranger to the transportation record."

This conference ruling, the Supreme Court said, constituted no limitation on the commission, as it could disregard it, as it did in the present case, "even were it consistent with a correct construction of the act, which we hold it was not."

SMALL PACKERS PROTEST

SIGNED BY SCORES of so-called "small packers," the following protest to Congress has been addressed to the president of the United States Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives:

"The undersigned companies constitute practically a complete roster of the important so-called 'small packers' in the United States.

"We wish to protest to Congress, and directly to the American people, against the baseless charges of profiteering which are being made against the meat-packing industry in general.

"We declare to the public, and offer to prove, that:

"1. The average profit received in the packing industry on a dollar's worth of product sold to the retailer is less than 2 cents.

"2. The rate of profit at this time is considerably less than the figure just mentioned.

"3. The packer's profit adds less than a nickel a week to the meat bill of the average American family.

"If these facts are not admitted, we ask that they be denied, and, if denied, that we have a chance to prove them.

"The only fair measure of earning is the profit received on each dollar's worth of product sold. That is what the consumer and the producer wish to know. The slander and baseless denunciation which have been heaped on the packers have seriously injured the meat industry, the farmer, and the live-stock producer, and have been severely damaging to the interest of the consumer.

"All that we ask of the public is a fair, impartial attitude—judgment based on facts instead of prejudice and misrepresentation—toward an essential industry which is serving the people cheaply and well."

WASHINGTON LETTER

BY DUNNE MANWAY

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 1, 1920.

HOPE FOR LEGISLATION providing public supervision of the live-stock markets before the summer recess of Congress vanished shortly after the middle of the month, when it became known that certain opponents of the Gronna bill were prepared to conduct a filibuster against it in case it were brought up for action. The alternative which confronted the advocates of the measure, therefore, was to bring the bill up for immediate consideration, thereby forcing the issue, which would probably have prevented the passage of the remaining big appropriation bills, or to allow the supply bills to take their regular course, and then have the packer bill made the unfinished business for immediate consideration upon the reassembling of the two houses.

The latter plan was chosen as the better of the two. It has the advantage of not provoking any resentment on the part of members who are anxious to get away for the summer into the campaign, but who would feel that it would be impossible to leave Washington with the big appropriation bills still unenacted. There is every indication even now that the District of Columbia appropriation bill will not be passed before the contemplated adjournment early in June. This, of course, does not affect the country at large, but considerable inconvenience would be inflicted if the sundry civil appropriation bill, the agricultural appropriation bill, and similar department measures were killed by a filibuster against the packer legislation.

There seems to be no doubt that this measure will provoke extended debate, although it seems also quite clear that there are more than enough votes in both the Senate and the House to pass it. For several days last week it was the senatorial storm center. Senator Kenyon (Republican), of Iowa, precipitated the disturbance when he charged that the Republican steering committee was deliberately endeavoring to shelve the bill. The committee had refused to give it a place on the calendar, and was advancing ahead of it measures like the merchant-marine bill, which had not come from the committee until long after the Gronna bill had been favorably reported. After having been agitated in the cloak-rooms for about a week, discussions were brought forth on the floor, and Senator McCumber, of North Dakota, speaking for the steering committee, formally denied any prejudice against the packer bill. Senator Kendrick (Democrat), of Wyoming, then asserted that, so far as he was concerned, there was no disposition on the part of advocates of the legislation to do anything that would prevent the enactment of other necessary measures, and he expressed a desire to have a general agreement upon a date for consideration of the Gronna bill. He asserted his confidence that the Democratic members of the Senate would be quite willing to unite in setting a date for bringing up the measure, and in this he was seconded by Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, ranking Democratic member of the Finance Committee, who declared that the Democrats would be quite willing to unite in an agreement for bringing up the legislation. The following day Senator Lodge, Republican leader, announced that he would be ready to help bring the bill up when it was apparent that to do so would not endanger the other necessary measures.

The result, therefore, was the general understanding that the packer bill will be made the unfinished business when the time comes to adjourn the present session, and on Friday, May 28, it was formally put down for consideration on June 5—the proposed date of adjournment. Of course, if for any reason adjournment should be prevented and the two houses should remain in session during June and July, the advocates of this measure will be ready to bring it up immediately upon the conclusion of the consideration of the appropriation bills.

Pressure for congressional action upon the matter is growing daily. The new National League of Women Voters, which

has just opened headquarters in Washington, has thrown itself into the campaign with the greatest vigor and has announced the intention of demanding that both parties insert planks in their platforms for federal supervision of the live-stock markets. The following plank is to be presented by the women to the resolutions committees of both the Republican and Democratic conventions:

"The Home and High Prices. As a means of increasing the efficiency of the home and reducing the cost of living, we favor:

"Increased federal support for vocational training in home economics;

"Such federal regulation and supervision of the marketing and distribution of food as will tend to equalize and lower prices, and the enactment and enforcement of such other measures as will freely open the channels of trade, prevent excess profits, and eliminate unfair competition and the control of the necessities of life."

Further indication of the growing national demand for action on this problem was given by Senator David I. Walsh, of Massachusetts, in a speech on the floor of the Senate on May 18. His address, which has been characterized as one of the most searching analyses of present-day unrest which have been delivered at this session, was in effect a condemnation of Congress for its failure to enact remedial legislation. Among other things, the senator said:

"It is not amiss to pause here and point to the positively wanton indifference and irresponsiveness of Congress to the proposals made thus far to alleviate the suffering of our people. Why have we not taken action on the various 'blue-sky laws' that have come up before us; on the Kenyon-Kendrick and Gronna bills, which followed out the suggestions of Mr. Hoover and of the Federal Trade Commission in regard to independent abattoirs and a separation of packing-houses and stock-yards as a means of lowering meat prices? Why must we still answer, 'Nothing done,' on the punitive measures against profiteers urged by the public and the press; on the McNary bill, intended to make compulsory the stamping of costs of manufacture and distribution on articles en route from maker to consumer; and on the several other such bills and resolutions coming up before us? It remains the lamentable truth that we have limited our efforts in behalf of our imposed-upon classes to a pitiful and totally cumbrous and unworkable extension of the Lever act and the organization of a Sugar Board, which, so far as it appears, by the very action of the profiteers themselves has been rendered incapable of functioning."

Following Senator Walsh, Senator Kendrick, of Wyoming, father of the packer legislation, delivered a comprehensive address in which he examined the problem from all sides, and declared that legislation alone could bring peace and confidence to the industry. He pointed out that the recent growth of the big packers has been accompanied by a steady decrease of production, and that where their power is strongest, production and competition are scarcest, but that where competition is strongest, production also is more vigorous. Almost simultaneously a report, prepared by Mr. W. Jett Lauck, an economist, for presentation to the United States Railroad Labor Board, concentrated attention again upon the profits which the big packers of meat have been making. This report was designed to show the relation between wages and the increased cost of living, and contained a general survey of profiteering and labor costs in all the principal industries. Special attention was devoted to the meat-packing industry, and from this statement may be quoted the following:

"On the other hand, profits have actually increased between 300 and 400 per cent. Four of the big packing-houses earned during the years 1915-1917 \$140,000,000. Such profits were made despite the deduction of enormous amounts for excessive salaries, advertising, and overhead charges. Altogether in the period of 1912-1918 these concerns took one-quarter of a billion dollars in profits, or nearly double the pre-war value of their stock. Three-fourths of the new stock issued to conceal these huge profits was stock dividends representing no real investment. In this profiteering enterprise the five big packers have been assisted by their control of affiliated and subsidiary companies, such as stock-yards and rendering plants. These companies were acquired, with practically no real expenditure, through

stock dividends, etc. They have paid large profits, especially since the war. It is such accumulating profits that cause the high cost of living."

Not only from New England and the West are the appeals for legislation coming to congressional offices, but also in growing numbers from the South. Women particularly seem to have taken an active interest, and many senators and representatives are receiving direct communications from them, urging immediate action. Of course, the danger is felt in some quarters that, if Congress does not reassemble during the summer, and consideration of the problem is thus necessarily postponed until the short session commences in December after the election, the opponents of the legislation will have gained an advantage. Members of Congress, defeated for re-election in November, will not be particularly interested in what happens, it is said, and those who have been re-elected, if they are at all doubtful upon the question, will feel more secure in allowing it to drift than they would just before election. Much, therefore, depends upon how long a recess Congress takes for the political conventions.

* * *

After a disagreement lasting more than a month on the agricultural appropriation bill, the Senate and House conferees finally got together, and the bill was passed and signed by the President. Although the House had insisted upon reducing the appropriations allowed by the Senate for important and useful activities of the Department of Agriculture, it refused absolutely to agree to the Senate amendment whereby an appropriation of \$239,000 for the annual free seed gifts to constituents was stricken out, and no concessions that the Senate conferees were willing to make with respect to other appropriations were sufficient to induce the representatives of the House to give up the seed privilege. In order to end the deadlock, the Senate conferees accepted the House provision, and the full amount for the annual seed gift was allowed.

With regard to the other items on the bill, the conference report shows a reduction of over \$1,360,000 from the increases which had previously been allowed by the Senate committee for various bureau activities. The total appropriation granted this year, therefore, will be approximately \$31,500,000, or about \$2,500,000 less than the department had for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920. Among the important Senate increases which were eliminated in conference was an item of \$231,000 for the eradication of hog cholera. The activities of the Bureau of Markets were also curtailed by the conference, which cut out increases of approximately \$25,000 for the distribution of market information. The amounts available for experiments in road-building were reduced by \$25,000. Forest Service appropriations for silviculture and for preventing the spread of moths were shaved down \$105,000. The Forest Service also lost \$50,000 for construction of roads, trails, and bridges, as well as \$11,000 for increased equipment. Dairy inspection of renovated butter, etc., suffered a loss of \$25,000. In this connection, however, it is interesting to note that the House receded from its amendment designed to compel the Forest Service to reappraise pasture lands in the national forests, thus settling, at least for the next year, the question of grazing fees.

The ability of the department to carry on agricultural demonstrations on reclamation projects was limited by a reduction of \$17,000 for this purpose, and a further reduction of \$10,000 for dry-land investigations. Another item, providing for investigations in connection with western irrigation agriculture, was reduced by \$21,200. Many important increases, however, which had been voted by the Senate committee were retained, although, of course, the Department of Agriculture will not be in position during the next year to render as efficient service as it has during the past.

The Senate committee had made an effort to broaden the work of the department by increasing efficient personnel. An

attempt was made to decrease the number of low-paid clerks, but the employment of some additional, but more experienced and better-equipped, clerks was to be authorized. In this connection, another Assistant Secretary of Agriculture was provided by Senate amendment. The House conferees, however, for the most part opposed these modifications, and the Senate was obliged to agree to a compromise.

THE GREAT CATTLE CATASTROPHE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., June 1, 1920.

FOR WHAT HAS HAPPENED in the cattle market recently packers cannot be reasonably blamed. The trouble was started last fall when an army of heavy steers that should have gone to the shambles was detained for a corn-crib cross. Optimism ran riot; reason was ignored. The country is prosperous, contended the horn-blowers; money is abundant; everybody has a job, and beef cannot fail to command good prices. Danger-signals were not lacking, but most feeders ignored them. Profits were considered in sight, causing a scramble to get the money.

Ever since the winter crop of beef entered the making stage vicissitude has accumulated, verifying the adage that when it rains it pours. Corn gradually advanced from \$1.25 to \$1.75 per bushel, and even higher. At a period when liquidation of this crop of fat steers should have been in full swing the Chicago market was closed by a strike. Hardly had that obstacle been removed when the outlaw switchmen's strike paralyzed transportation facilities, holding cattle back in feed-lots thirty to sixty days longer than expected, so that all through May the market was congested with bullocks, the product of which should have gone into distributive channels long before. But all these were merely fortuitous circumstances; the basic blunder was perpetrated last fall when feed-lots were filled.

Feeders' losses will never be computed. Many operators have been badly hurt in a financial sense, but in the main the loss has been so widely distributed that no abnormal activity on the part of the sheriff will result. Losses range from \$25 to \$100 per head, some of the lighter stuff having actually paid out. In some instances bullocks weighing 1,500 to 1,600 pounds, that were beef when laid in last fall, have lost feeders as much as \$100 per head; but such operations merely emphasize lack of judgment on the part of the feeder. Let it be understood that such bullocks are a trade anachronism; not even Boston requires them under new conditions, packers buy them under protest, and, while they eventually find a place to put the beef, they could dispense with it.

Competition at the cattle market exists, but not in the case of heavy cattle. Ten years ago a dozen independent Boston and New York concerns contended for 1,400- to 1,600-pound bullocks, but one by one they have been gathered into the fold. Swift controls Boston, the kosher and hotel trade of New York being split between the members of the Big Five. They still weigh cattle to Stern, the United Dressed Beef Company, New York Butchers, and Nagel at Chicago; but in every instance Armour, Swift, Morris, or Cudahy pays the bill, and the S. & S. business has been wholly absorbed by Wilson. Therefore the feeder who prepares a load of heavy cattle has nobody but himself to blame when he reaches market to find that what is tantamount to a single buyer bids for his property. The remedy is obvious: eliminate the big steer.

The great catastrophe to the feeding industry occurred during May, when thousands of heavy steers sold at \$12 to \$12.75, and Christmas cattle could not beat \$13, bullocks at that price

being identical in quality and weight with \$20 stuff last December. The spectacle was witnessed of fat cattle going to killers at \$12.50, while feeders paid \$13.50 for heavy steers to throw out on grass. Equally absurd was a clamor for little 800- to 900-pound yearlings at \$13.50 to \$14.50, while \$12.50 took 1,400- to 1,500-pound bullocks good enough for any New York hotel trade; Fred Harvey cattle selling at \$13. In many instances heavy cattle worth \$12.50 had eaten more corn than was represented by the total cost of producing yearlings selling at the same figure. Week after week the market continued on its jaunt from bad to worse. Acres of fat bullocks were carried over from day to day and from one week to another, because bids could not be elicited. At one stage feeders actually shipped heavy steers back home to be thrown out on grass. Thousands were sold on the Chicago market, by dint of industrious peddling, at \$12 to \$12.75, that cost as much last fall at Omaha and Kansas City.

The Belgian order furnished competition for a certain class of plain, or coarse, heavy steers, weighing 1,400 pounds and upward, that otherwise would have been without a reliable outlet. This order comes from a Canadian source, and has been a healthy prop under the market, taking care of thousands of steers for which no domestic demand existed. But in striking contrast to perennial sluggishness in the case of heavy cattle was a brisk demand for light and cheap stuff. Eastern shippers and city butchers have been surprisingly active within a range of \$11.50 to \$12.50, concentrating on 800- to 1,050-pound steers, regardless of a free movement of Texas stuff adapted to the same trade. The daily stereotyped story of the market was: "Higher if you can interest a shipper; dead if you have to go to a packer buyer." During the war this class of buying developed volume that has since been well maintained. The result has been a narrow spread between bovine weeds and nondescripts, on the one hand, and good heavy cattle, on the other. Never before during a period of high-priced feed have prime heavy and yearling steers sold \$1 per cwt. apart, to the disadvantage of the former. Cheap feed makes heavy cattle logical. In this instance the country climaxed error.

At the inception of June the market showed an improvement trend. Throwing fat cattle out on grass relieved pressure. Eventually big bullocks will come into their own; by fall they may be selling at a substantial premium; but, if feeders swallow the bait again, they will not be entitled to sympathy. Killers can use twenty bullocks weighing 900 to 1,100 pounds where they can find a place to put the product of a single animal weighing over 1,200 pounds—a trade mutation of which cattle-raisers and beef-makers must take cognizance.

LAND LEGISLATION FOR NEVADA

FROM NEVADA we hear that sentiment is tending toward special land legislation for that state. As in other western land states, the opinion of Nevada stockmen is divided: some want to leave matters as they are; others prefer to have the 640-acre stock-raising homestead act solve their troubles; while the majority are for regulation along the lines of the King bill now pending in Congress.

Nevada stockmen have come to the conclusion that land legislation providing for federal regulation of the remaining public domain in all the western land states will be very difficult to secure, and that Nevada would stand a much better chance for such legislation if it were confined to that state. We are informed that the Nevada Live Stock Association is working on a plan to secure some special land legislation for the central, eastern, and southern sections of that state, which are strong for range control. Nevada should get busy before

Congress extends the stock-raising homestead act and makes impracticable any reasonable regulation of grazing on the remaining public domain.

GRAZING CHARGES ON NATIONAL FORESTS AND PRIVATE LAND IN NEVADA

AS BEARING ON THE QUESTION of an advance in grazing fees on national forests, and the supposed disparity between these fees and those charged for similar privileges on privately owned land, on which the demand for the increase is largely based, the following paragraph, quoted from an editorial on that subject appearing in the *Nevada Stockgrower*, is of interest:

"Considerable was also said [during the hearings of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives at Washington] as to the differences in cost of grazing on national forests as against privately owned or controlled lands. Statistics gathered by the United States Forest Service in 1917 for Nevada show that, taking in around 350,000 acres of railroad land, which forms the bulk of private lands available for grazing purposes, the average price being paid for cattle was 72 cents for eight months' grazing. None of us have heard of any greater than a 25 per cent increase in railroad leases in the last few years, which would make the present rate 90 cents for eight months' grazing. The present forest rates for cattle in Nevada are \$1.20 for twelve months, which figures 90 cents for nine months—very close to railroad land prices."

At meetings held during the spring months, local live-stock organizations in different parts of Nevada have passed resolutions vigorously protesting against the proposed advance.

SHIPPING HOGS IN HOT WEATHER

FROM THE SECRETARY of the National Live Stock Exchange we have received a copy of a paper entitled "Hot-Weather Hog-Shipping Instructions," representing a summary of suggestions made on that subject at a recent "live-stock shipping-loss conference" of that organization. Besides euphony, these suggestions have the merit of timeliness, and we take pleasure in reproducing them herewith:

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE RAILROADS

1. Furnish clean cars, or cars bedded in accordance with shipper's suggestion.
2. Use sand in preference to other bedding.
3. Provide suitable facilities for watering the hogs, and wetting down the bedding and interior of car.
4. Provide suitable drenching facilities for use en route.
5. Drench frequently immediately after the train stops, but not after the car has stood until hogs are heated.
6. Keep loaded car where air currents circulate, and not alongside buildings, engines, or cuts of cars.
7. Provide extra hose at all tank stations for use in drenching in emergency cases.
8. Designate a competent inspector to exercise constant supervision over these facilities and their use.
9. Never throw water directly upon the hogs after they become heated. Run it upon the floor instead.
10. Report any careless or negligent shipper to the consignee, and keep a complete record thereof.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SHIPPERS

1. Haul or drive your hogs into shipping station in ample time to allow them to become rested and cool before loading.
2. Insist upon a clean car bedded with sand.
3. Wet down the bedding and interior of the car before loading.
4. Give only a light grain feeding before shipping. Heavy feed means more body heat generated.
5. Load not more than one hour before the train is to depart.
6. Load slowly and carefully. Avoid excitement, and do not beat or bruise the animals.
7. Load not to exceed 16,000 pounds in a standard 36-foot car during warm weather.
8. Have the cars drenched at every available point immediately after the train stops.
9. Use ice-bags suspended from the car roof whenever possible. Six bags to a car will suffice.
10. Report any inattention or neglect to your commission man immediately upon arrival.

CONVERTING HOG SKINS INTO LEATHER

IN LEATHER CIRCLES a new invention is attracting attention. This is a recently patented process for treating hog skins which holds out promise of solving a problem that has baffled tanners for many long years—and which, incidentally, if prophecies come true, may prove helpful in pulling down the high cost of footwear. From *Hide and Leather*, which "features" an account of the invention and describes the process in detail, we quote the following:

"For ages tanners have been endeavoring to find a practical method to convert hog skins into leather of good quality for general uses, but without success. The cause of the difficulty was well known, but the remedy remained a secret until worked out by many years of experimentation. Hog skins contain an excess of fat. Fat repels tannin and prevents complete tanning. The secret was to remove the fat from the raw skins without loss of collagen or other change of skin structure, which is now accomplished in an efficient and economical manner.

"The structure of hog skin is of a character to produce the highest quality of leather of practically all classes, and especially for shoes. The sole leather has pliability and wonderful abrasive wear, and the upper leather has abrasive wear, softness, pliability, and tensile strength. The reason is that the collagen (which is the skin substance that makes leather fiber) is more dense in hog skin than in any other kind of skin, and, in the absence of fat, it produces longer and more compact fiber throughout the skin body. Most other skins have a thin wear surface, known as 'grain,' under which is loose, coarse fiber having little wear quality; while hog skins have that wear quality in the entire thickness.

"Competent leather authorities predict that this process will effect a wonderful change in the leather industry, and bring shoes to a reasonable cost level."

SENATOR KENDRICK'S ADDRESS

THE ADDRESS OF SENATOR JOHN B. KENDRICK in the United States Senate, on May 21, on the Gronna bill to regulate the meat-packing industry, stock-yards, and other market instrumentalities, has been printed in pamphlet form, and will be sent to every member of the American National Live Stock Association and the officers of the constituent associations, members of the national organization. This speech is worth a most careful reading. If any subscriber to *THE PRODUCER* desires to receive a copy of it, it may be secured by making request of the Secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado.

WHY IS IT that the cost-of-living figures regularly put out by the Bureau of Labor at Washington do not agree with the compilations of the recognized commercial agencies and statisticians? It is a rare occurrence when the Bureau of Labor registers a decline in the price of anything used for food or clothing. Are they trying to make out a good case for an unending increase in the wage scale?

THE CALENDAR

- June 14-16—Annual Convention of Western Nebraska Stock Growers' Association, Scottsbluff, Neb.
- September 20-25—Interstate Live Stock Fair, Sioux City, Iowa.
- October 2-10—Los Angeles Live Stock Show, Los Angeles, Cal.
- October 16-24—California International Live Stock Show, San Francisco, Cal.
- November 1-5—Western Royal Live Stock Show, Spokane, Wash.
- November 7-12—Northwest Live Stock Show, Lewiston, Idaho.
- November 13-20—Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, North Portland, Ore.
- November 27-December 4—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.

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GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS

RETAIL LIQUIDATION during May in clothing and certain other apparel lines at sharp recessions was accepted by the public as the beginning of a readjustment of prices to a lower level. Whether it will widen and extend into other channels depends upon the volume of production. The surrender by retailers of some of their large and, generally believed to be, exorbitant profits may be only temporary, if production of staples does not increase. All textile raw materials—wool, cotton, jute, silk, etc.—are tending lower, but the stocks of goods in manufacturers' hands, with some exceptions, are not large. Merchants are hesitating about making commitments for fall goods, and there is an increased cancellation of orders. This should lead to liquidation among jobbers and wholesalers.

Congestion in transportation has been somewhat relieved, but is still the controlling factor in limiting the coal supply, as well as the output of steel-mills, lumber, etc. Until transportation arteries are fully opened there must continue to be a shrinkage in the normal volume of industrial transactions. Many transportation embargoes are still in effect. No matter how wisely the Interstate Commerce Commission handles the rolling-stock and power of the railroads, it cannot make a totally inadequate supply of cars and locomotives perform miracles. It takes time to build additional equipment. Receipts of grain at terminal points have enlarged, but there is still a big surplus of wheat and corn in farmers' hands. If this could be moved, it would alleviate financial stringency in many farming sections.

During May cattle prices showed a general advance on all classes, hogs registered a slight decline, while sheep and lambs suffered a severe break. Hides are practically unchanged. Wool prices declined approximately 25 per cent. Owing to the unsettled conditions

in the wool market, the big eastern wool-houses have directed their western buyers to discontinue any purchases and to solicit wool only on consignment. This will seriously affect money conditions in the strictly wool sections of the West.

The value of exports in April showed a sharp contraction, grain and meat products leading in the decline; while the value of our imports fell off to a less extent. The margin between the two was the smallest in many months. Unofficial May estimates indicate a further shrinkage in exports and an increase in imports. This trend in our international trade accounts for the stiffening in foreign-exchange rates.

Liberty bonds dropped to a new low level during May; then reacted sharply. The Federal Reserve Board advanced the discount rate one per cent. Wall Street transactions greatly lessened. Prices on a majority of securities and bonds remained practically unchanged.

Crop prospects improved materially during May. The winter-wheat estimate has consequently been increased. Corn-planting is late, but a larger acreage than usual will be seeded. Government wheat control ended June 1. Trade in wheat futures will probably commence July 15. There was no appreciable change in wheat prices incident to the end of government control.

Bradstreet's index number for the week ending June 3, 1920, based on the price per pound of thirty-one articles used for food, was \$4.87, compared with \$4.91 for the previous week, and \$4.99 for the corresponding week in 1919.

ARE WE SOON TO CEASE TO BE SELF-SUPPORTING?

VISUALIZATION OF THE UNITED STATES as dependent on foreign sources for an adequate supply of some of our staple foods may seem neither easy nor profitable to the average citizen who has been brought up on the pleasant tradition of this country as the "world's bread-basket" and has in fresh remembrance our role during the four years of the war. That such a contingency, however, is passing out of the stage of academic discussion and may presently face us as an imminent reality is an idea finding frequent expression of late by certain pessimistic economists and editorial writers who "view with alarm" the dwindling contents of the basket and are beginning to speculate as to the effects on our economic structure of a definite transition from a predominately agricultural to an essentially industrial nation—from a food-exporter to a food-importer.

That our food-producers—our farmers and stock-raisers—are sailing a perilous sea, dotted with rocks, rimmed with reefs, and strewn with wreckage, is a truism requiring neither elucidation nor emphasis to readers of this journal. Between the acts of God and man, of the middleman and the devil, they are sore beset with

many afflictions, and it takes a staunch faith indeed not to lose courage and to quit a business so precarious and fraught with hardships. Is it any wonder that there should be those who in bewilderment cry out: "How long, O Lord?" Do not the eighteen thousand abandoned farms in Michigan, and the census returns registering a swelling townward procession reaching from coast to coast, tell an eloquent tale and one to make thinking people pause to ask what the outcome will be?

Of course, it is true that economic ills, like physical ailments, have a tendency to correct themselves. The normal state in all things is one of equilibrium. The instant production of an essential commodity sinks to a level where legitimate needs are denied satisfaction, corrective forces are set in motion and the pendulum starts to swing back. By restricting output, under pressure of the two converging pincer-jaws of rising cost of production and a falling market, producers stimulate demand, which in turn reacts on prices and brings about increased production, till the balance is restored—when a new cycle begins.

This, in theory, is the law—beautiful to contemplate, and full of solace for him who can sit down and wait while it works out in his favor. But it takes only passing cognizance of such phenomena as strikes and profiteers, and summer droughts and spring blizzards it knows not at all. The Kansas farmer, seeing his off-spring trail after the will-o'-the-wisps of the Great White Way, and unable from last season's surplus to pay the six-dollars-a-day "and found" demanded by the itinerant "hand"—even if the latter could be found at all—is confronted by a painfully acute condition that no theory of cause and effect, however plausible, can assuage; he cannot hibernate till the prodigals come back, or till the wheat market responds sufficiently to the lessened offerings to permit him to corral the elusive harvester. And not many Montana stockmen who disposed of their herds at a sacrifice during last summer's drought, or lost them later in the April storms because they could not from the proceeds of the year's business buy hay at forty dollars a ton, can afford to ruminate in the solitude of the sagebrush while the seesaw of supply and demand leisurely zigzags its course to a point where the packer shall feel justified in quoting prices on steers that will allow the rancher at least to break even. Talleyrand to the contrary notwithstanding, "a fellow must live;" and the fellow—the little fellow who has lost his faith, or the modest capital that backed up his faith—pulls up his tent-pegs and moves on.

The remedy? Congress, taking tardy notice of gathering clouds, adjourned to Chicago and San Francisco with little to offer in the way of tangible results, and with important legislation, like the Gronna and Anderson bills, still on the calendar. Our new Secretary of Agriculture, with admirable energy and clarity, is driving home many a half-forgotten truth, doing yeoman service in rousing public opinion and directing the forces

at work to improve conditions; but he cannot work miracles and, with his reduced appropriations, single-handed can initiate few effective reforms. Laboratory experts are busy analyzing and discussing symptoms, and concocting antitoxins—while the patient is clamoring ever louder for relief.

The following suggestions pretend to contain nothing new; they are but a summarization of views toward which the best opinion of the country appears to be gravitating, and which have, in part, found previous expression in these columns:

1. *Lower the cost of production.* Amend the present immigration law by repealing the literacy-test clause, letting in the people from southeastern Europe willing to come to America and work in our fields; make life in the country attractive to our own young people by providing greater comforts and more liberal opportunities for recreation; encourage the use of labor-saving machinery; make provision for systematic instruction as to the most suitable and productive strains and breeds, the most economical animal feeds, the best rotations, the importance of fertilizers, etc.

2. *Reform the system of distribution.* Eliminate all needless links in the chain of agencies connecting producer with consumer; cut in two the jobber's percentage of the ultimate retail price, dividing the gain equitably between producer and consumer; foster co-operative combinations for the production, pooling, marketing, and retail distribution of staple foods, and make their status one of unquestioned legality and administrative efficiency; pursue the profiteer and the speculator into their last retreat, if necessary through the passage of special laws; insist on efficient service on the part of railroads; remove the strike menace by enacting legislation safeguarding at the same time workers' interests and shippers' rights.

3. *Make money cheaper.* Let the government become the financial backer of the food-producer, assisting him, where necessary, with long-time loans for the purchase of land and machinery, and with adequate discount facilities at low rates.

These, we hold, must be the three pivotal factors in any successful scheme for the permanent adjustment of the difficulties from which we are now suffering. And the most important, perhaps, is the second. As Mr. Hoover has pointed out, in no other country in the world is the margin between what the producer receives and what the consumer pays so wide as in the United States. While this is in part due to our greater distances (as compared with Europe at least), resulting in higher freight charges and added cost of handling, it is in much larger degree the necessary consequence of a wasteful and utterly indefensible multiplication of middlemen—parasitic barnacles clinging to our industrial craft, impeding its progress while sucking the hull both fore and aft.

If America is ever to go hungry, or to send abroad

for her bread and meat, it will not be for lack of acres to till or for pastures to graze. It will be because the growing of wheat and the raising of stock do no longer pay. Can we as a nation afford to render the fundamental industry of agriculture permanently unprofitable?

SOME ILLUMINATING QUOTATIONS

THE SHEEP AND LAMB MARKET has been on the toboggan slide since New Zealand mutton commenced arriving in the United States in large volume early in May. Wool, too, has been declining on account of the sales here of English importations.

A telegraphic market report from Chicago, dated June 5, says:

Sheep: Compared with a week ago, shorn lambs \$1 lower, in-between kinds off more; best spring lambs 50 to 75 cents lower, others off more; sheep \$2 to \$2.50 lower.

During the week ending June 5 New Zealand mutton found its way as far west as Omaha. According to the *Omaha Daily Drovers' Journal-Stockman*, a large consignment of the frozen stock was received by one of the packing-houses at that point last week.

From the *Denver Daily Record-Stockman* of June 2 we quote:

New Zealand frozen lamb will be offered to the Denver meat-eating public during the next few weeks, as a result of the arrival of a shipment of 700 carcasses Tuesday at the plant of the Colorado Packing and Provision Company at the Denver yards. The meat came from the eastern seaboard, where it was received direct from New Zealand. Shipments have already been received at distributing points farther east, but this is the first shipment sent as far west as Denver.

Armour & Co. were indicted in Boston early in May because of wild fluctuations in lamb and mutton prices. The explanation of this matter given by them is as follows:

The facts as reported relative to our indictment in Boston are not correct. Instead of being indicted, we should be commended. There is a crying need for more food, and the lamb supply is very short and the price exceedingly high. Last winter we foresaw this condition, and arranged to ship in lambs from New Zealand to cope with it. The New Zealand lambs which we have been selling in Boston are of unusually fine quality, but we are selling them below the market price for western lambs; and, were it not for these New Zealand lambs, the price of western lambs would be even higher than it is now.

As a result of a transaction which has added to the available supply, which has kept the price of western lambs from going higher, and which has actually given the market fine-quality lamb at a lower price, we have been indicted. Maybe those who are responsible for our indictment do not want the cost of living to be reduced. Certainly it is a species of camouflage for political effect to indict us for bringing in lambs from New Zealand and selling them for less than the local lambs can be bought.

Armour & Co. showed good trade sagacity in foreseeing the situation and arranging to import New Zealand lamb and mutton to break the market. This was probably considered sound business tactics for that firm, and temporarily at least was in the interest of the con-

sumer. But how about the producer of sheep and lambs in the United States?

About a year ago, in the hope of enlarging the consumption of lamb and mutton, and thereby increasing prices on the hoof so as to yield to the grower a reasonable profit, the National Wool Growers' Association inaugurated an "Eat More Lamb" campaign. The big packers indorsed and assisted in this propaganda, as they recognized that the sheep industry needed stimulation. If any increased demand was created, it certainly was not broad enough to absorb the weight of these recent New Zealand importations.

THE RIGHT TO CROSS PRIVATE LAND

UNDER THE TERMS of the land grants from the United States to assist in building the transcontinental lines, the Union Pacific Railroad Company acquired in Wyoming each alternate, odd-numbered section of land for twenty miles on both sides of its right-of-way. The government retained the remainder, or the even-numbered sections, within that area. For many years it has been customary for the Union Pacific Company to lease its land to stockmen along its line for grazing purposes. The land so leased could not be fenced in large tracts without inclosing government land, and that would be unlawful. Lessees of Union Pacific land did not, by virtue of their lease, acquire any superior right to graze on the adjoining government land, but were naturally in a better position than anybody else to utilize that free grazing.

This checker-board area along the Union Pacific line in Wyoming has provoked much bitter contention among stockmen in the past, and is still a source of controversy between those leasing the railroad land and those who want to use the grazing on the government land—open to all on equal terms. Practical stockmen can appreciate the difficulty attending any attempts to use this government land if the lessee of the Union Pacific land stands on his rights. The situation is further complicated by the fact that some stockmen want to cross this checker-board area to reach government land beyond its confines, and by the practical impossibility of keeping their herds and flocks off the leased section during such a journey.

There have been numerous legal battles fought over this matter, and in a recent case, entitled *Muford v. Rock Springs Grazing Association* (Circuit Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit), it was held:

Complainant sheep-owners he'd not entitled to injunction to restrain defendant, the owner of odd-numbered sections of tract of grazing land, the even-numbered sections being unoccupied public land, from interfering with complainants in driving and grazing their sheep on its lands while going to and from the government sections, where it was shown that there were numerous highways across the tract in different directions, that the section and quarter corners were plainly marked by steel posts, and that defendant had not interfered with the driving of sheep over its lands to reach the government sections, but had freely

given permits for the same, conditioned on payment of a reasonable price for the grass consumed from its lands.

Stockmen who want to cross the checker-board area, or who want to graze the alternate government sections, must keep off leased lands or pay the price of the grazing consumed. Probably this decision will not end this or similar disputes. Indeed, so long as there is any free, unregulated open range sandwiched in between railroad land, there will continue to be controversies about its use.

READJUSTMENT OF GRAZING FEES

AS WILL BE NOTED from our Washington letter, the House conferees on the agricultural appropriation bill receded from their demand for an appropriation of \$25,000 for the Secretary of Agriculture to make an immediate reappraisal of grazing on the national forests. This settles the matter for twelve months at least. However, the five-year grazing-permit system is fast drawing to a close. Before it expires the Forest Service will make a survey of the value of grazing, with a view to a readjustment of fees according to what may be considered its commercial value. Then a hearing will probably be held before the Secretary of Agriculture, so that the stockmen may be afforded an opportunity to present their views.

The National Advisory Board of the American National Live Stock Association, in conjunction with its Standing Committee on National Forests and Grazing Lands, has under consideration the appointment of a special committee to secure data as to the grazing value on the different forests, and to assemble and tabulate these for use when the question of a change in the grazing fees comes up. State live-stock associations should undertake to prepare this information concerning the forests in their respective states, and local live-stock organizations should co-operate with their state organization in this work.

PENNY-WISE AND POUND-FOOLISH

COMPARED WITH THE BILLIONS APPROPRIATED by Congress to run the various departments of our government, the \$31,500,000 granted to the Department of Agriculture for the ensuing fiscal year looks quite insignificant, considered in the light of its many activities. That department was given approximately \$2,500,000 less than was granted to it last year, and some \$6,000,000 less than was asked for by the Secretary of Agriculture. Agriculture is the foundation of our national prosperity.

"I congratulate you on the anniversary number of THE PRODUCER. You have been remarkably successful in keeping up a high standard of readable matter; and as a compilation of facts and figures of importance to the live-stock industry the magazine is in a class by itself."—C. M. O'Donel, Bell Ranch, N. M.

"THE PRODUCER will soon be the last word in cattle circles. Your efforts are to be commended."—Howard Guilfoill, Brownlee, Neb.

LABOR SHORTAGE MENACES FARMS

CONFIRMATORY OF A VIEW of the situation confronting the American farmer which has found frequent expression in our columns, and to which the press of the country is giving increasing space and emphasis, is the following from the *Chicago Tribune* of May 8:

"Underproduction of the farm is apparently inevitable this year," said J. R. Howard, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, who returned recently to Chicago after investigating conditions in the southern and New England states. "The labor situation is acute in all the states I visited. A million acres of land ordinarily cultivated will not be plowed in Alabama this year as a result of labor shortage. Because of the high price of cotton, the acreage of this crop will be kept up. The huge decrease is on food crops."

"In Pennsylvania, he was told, there is a shortage of 81,000 men on the farms. In New York hundreds of farms will go untillied."

"I saw dozens of empty houses on the farms of Massachusetts," he said. "More than half the land in that state has been turned back to forests."

"The meat situation in the East concerns the beef-cattle men here in the Middle West. Our steers should be grown with four hind quarters. The butchers in Pittsburgh said: 'We cater to the workers in the steel-mills. Before the war they ate the front quarters and flank steaks—the cheaper cuts—but now they ask for porterhouse steaks and rib roasts from beef steers grown in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and other central states.'"

"He says the farmers are feeling discouraged. They wish to increase production, but cannot because they are unable to compete with industry for labor."

MARKETING THE 1920 WHEAT CROP

IF THE NEWLY ORGANIZED Wheat Growers' Association of the United States can bring it about, the 1920 wheat crop will be disposed of on a basis of \$3.13 per bushel. This was agreed to by two thousand wheat-growers meeting in Hutchinson, Kan., on May 18, when permanent organization was effected and the recommendations of the price committee were adopted. The association comprises the states of Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Nebraska, and South Dakota, and has for its sole purpose to "establish and maintain a fair price for wheat."

The price of \$3.13 was arrived at from an examination of data gathered through a questionnaire previously addressed to a large number of farmers, which showed that the average cost of producing a bushel of wheat was \$2.75.

As further illuminating this question, read the communication from E. E. Frizell appearing on page 30 of this issue of THE PRODUCER.

GRAIN PRICES FOR TEN YEARS

AVERAGE DECEMBER FARM PRICES, in cents per bushel, for each of the three principal grains—corn, wheat, and oats—in the United States, for the ten years 1910-1919, are tabulated below, from data made public by the Department of Agriculture:

	Corn	Wheat	Oats
1910.....	48.0	88.3	34.4
1911.....	61.8	87.4	45.0
1912.....	48.7	76.0	31.0
1913.....	69.1	79.9	39.2
1914.....	64.4	98.6	43.8
1915.....	57.5	91.9	36.1
1916.....	88.9	160.3	52.4
1917.....	127.9	200.8	66.6
1918.....	136.5	204.2	70.9
1919.....	134.9	215.1	71.7

Whatever food conditions are in other parts of Europe, England will always have her Irish stew.—*Columbia Record*.

It is announced that hungry Europe gets United States food by mail. No wonder Europe is hungry!—*Philadelphia North American*.

THE WORLD'S LIVE-STOCK POPULATION

APPENDED ARE TABULATED STATISTICS showing the meat-animal supplies of fifty countries. The figures in parentheses following the names of the countries indicate the years in which the enumerations or estimates were made. Wherever possible we have given the numbers on two dates—the first closely preceding the outbreak of the war, the second the latest from which data are available. This, we believe, will be of interest for purposes of comparison. In each instance the figures represent either official censuses or the most authentic information which we have been able to obtain. For several countries no recent estimates are at hand; in the case of a few others the figures given are obviously little better than more or less haphazard guesses. These we have included merely for the sake of completeness. With reference to Russia, and the countries in central and southeastern Europe whose frontiers and economic conditions are as yet in a state of flux, it should be remarked that the figures reflect pre-war boundaries. On the

other hand, Alsace-Lorraine has been included in the French totals for both 1913 and 1919, which are thus directly comparable. The Germany used is similarly presumed to be the Germany of its present limits, although our sources are not quite clear on this point.

Owing to their necessary incompleteness and lack of correspondence, we have not, by addition of the figures, attempted to give an idea of the aggregate live-stock resources of the world. It may be stated, however, that, from the best information obtainable, and leaving out of account the Central Powers, Russia, and India, there are at present approximately 342,000,000 head of cattle, 286,000,000 head of sheep, and 111,000,000 head of swine in the principal countries of the world, as against 320,000,000 cattle, 297,000,000 sheep, and 101,000,000 swine in the same countries in 1914. For the theory of a world-wide meat shortage, actual or impending, there seems, therefore, to be no substantial basis.

COUNTRY	CATTLE		SHEEP		SWINE	
	Before War	Recent Estimate	Before War	Recent Estimate	Before War	Recent Estimate
Algeria (?)				8,338,000		
Argentina ('13-'18)	30,796,000	35,000,000	81,485,000	83,546,000	2,901,000	3,197,000
Australia ('13-'19)	11,484,000	12,349,000	85,057,000	86,660,000	801,000	1,111,000
Austria* ('10-'17)	9,160,000	7,690,000	2,428,000	1,602,000	6,432,000	3,860,000
Belgium ('13-'19)	1,849,000	899,000	185,000		1,462,000	318,000
Brazil ('13-'18)	30,705,000	37,500,000	10,653,000	7,205,000	18,399,000	17,329,000
Bulgaria* ('10-'17)	1,603,000	1,305,000	8,633,000	5,700,000	527,000	320,000
Canada ('14-'19)	6,037,000	10,084,000	2,058,000	3,422,000	3,434,000	4,040,000
Chile ('14-'16)	1,969,000	1,869,000	4,602,000	4,553,000	221,000	258,000
Colombia (?)		7,000,000				
Costa Rica (?)	400,000				120,000	
Cuba ('11-'18)	2,830,000	3,962,000				
Denmark ('14-'19)	2,463,000	2,188,000	515,000	509,000	2,497,000	716,000
Ecuador (?)	1,250,000					
Egypt ('13-'16)	637,000	493,000		688,000		9,000
Finland ('10-'18)	1,573,000	1,400,000	1,309,000	1,125,000	418,000	227,000
Formosa ('13-'17)	419,000	377,000	500	500	1,313,000	1,273,000
France† ('13-'19)	15,339,000	13,708,000	16,175,000	9,533,000	7,529,000	4,268,000
Germany† ('13-'19)	20,444,000	16,799,000	5,476,000	6,423,000	25,166,000	8,887,000
Greece* ('05)	500,000		4,500,000			
Guatemala ('11)	250,000	100,000			50,000	
Hungary* ('13-'17)	6,045,000	5,075,000	6,560,000	4,330,000	6,825,000	4,095,000
India, British ('14-'18)	125,042,000	129,872,000	23,092,000	22,895,000		
Italy* ('14-'18)	6,646,000	6,186,000	13,824,000	11,752,000	2,722,000	2,337,000
Japan ('13-'17)	1,389,000	1,304,000	4,000	3,000	310,000	360,000
Korea ('13-'16)	1,211,000	1,353,000	500	500	761,000	780,000
Luxemburg ('18)		108,000		6,000		95,000
Madagascar (?)		7,000,000				
Mexico ('02)	5,142,000		3,424,000		616,000	
Morocco ('18)		1,173,000		4,194,000		103,000
Netherlands ('13-'19)	2,097,000	1,969,000	842,000	437,000	1,350,000	450,000
New Zealand ('14-'19)	2,020,000	3,035,000	24,799,000	25,829,000	349,000	235,000
Norway ('14-'18)	1,146,000	1,038,000	1,327,000	1,185,000	228,000	209,000
Paraguay ('15)	5,249,000		600,000		61,000	
Poland* ('14)	2,014,000		565,000		452,000	
Portugal ('10)	703,000		3,073,000		1,111,000	
Rumania* ('11-'18)	2,667,000	1,050,000	5,269,000	1,655,000	1,021,000	371,000
Russia in Asia (?)	17,334,000		34,468,000		2,962,000	
Russia in Europe* ('14-'16)	32,704,000	37,563,000	37,240,000	59,951,000	11,581,000	16,300,000
Serbia* ('10)	957,000		3,819,000		866,000	
Siam (?)	3,063,000					
South Africa ('11-'18)	5,797,000	7,500,000	35,711,000	31,981,000	1,082,000	1,500,000
Spain ('13-'18)	2,879,000	3,233,000	16,441,000	18,701,000	2,710,000	4,182,000
Sweden ('13-'19)	2,273,000	2,583,000	972,000	1,408,000	978,000	634,000
Switzerland ('11-'19)	1,443,000	1,432,000	161,000	264,000	570,000	464,000
Tunis ('13-'18)	217,000	251,000	729,000	1,125,000	17,000	15,000
United Kingdom ('14-'19)	12,145,000	12,287,000	27,886,000	25,146,000	3,940,000	2,912,000
United States ('14-'20)	56,592,000	68,232,000	49,719,000	48,615,000	58,933,000	72,909,000
Uruguay ('08-'18)	8,193,000	7,802,000	26,286,000	11,473,000		180,000
Venezuela (?)	2,000,000		200,000		1,750,000	

*Pre-war boundaries.

†Including Alsace-Lorraine.

‡Exclusive of Alsace-Lorraine and, for 1919, probably the Saar district and the territories ceded to Poland.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

THE PRODUCER invites the stockmen of the country to take advantage of its columns to present their views on problems of the day as they affect their industry. It solicits correspondence on topics of common concern, such as stock, crop, and weather conditions, doings of state and local organizations, records of transactions of more than individual interest. Make it your medium of exchange for live-stock information between the different sections of the stock-raising region. Address all communications to THE PRODUCER, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado.

PROPOSED BILLION-DOLLAR RATE ADVANCE SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED

FORT WORTH, TEX., May 17, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

With the nonchalance of a Roman emperor levying tribute upon his vassals, the railroad presidents have informed the Interstate Commerce Commission that they propose to burden the industries of the nation with an additional billion dollars. As a basis for this demand they point to the deplorable condition of the roads, and to the right to earn upon an inflated and fictitious valuation of these same roads which they berate as nearly worthless and having no credit, regardless of the actual investment, or the wisdom of it, or the efficiency and economy of management.

While they sound their tocsin throughout the land, the people remain asleep, with no one to analyze the merits of this propaganda. But the time has come for organized resistance to the calamity of further increasing rates, for the reason that the present rates, representing an average advance of 33 per cent over pre-war rates—which were held not to be unduly low—are all that should be permitted. If loss from poor management may be made up in rates, where is this thing going to stop?

There can be no doubt that, in the end, the consumer must pay. At the outset, however, the stock-raisers and farmers who send their products to market pay the freight, which is deducted from the proceeds of their sales. Overburdening an industry will inevitably lessen production. Nothing but continued increases in prices will stimulate production, unless the cost of producing and marketing is reduced. The cost of farm labor, its scarcity and inefficiency, the cost of transportation and marketing, the rake-off of the middleman—all these things spell disaster, not only for farmers and stock-raisers, but for all the people, because all the people must eat. Increasing rates but add fuel to the flame.

Production is the life of the nation. But production without profit cannot long continue. Only those most favorably situated will raise live stock and fatten it for market—but only for profit; others must retire. The farmer pays the highest rate of interest. His products are subject to price fluctuations, and he is forced to sell on the lowest market, as his credit declines with reduced prices, which bring but pyramided prices to the

consumer. No guaranty is made to him of a return on the value of his property. He cannot fix his wage, nor afford to hire help at present figures. He is more necessary to the nation than the railroads, which do receive this guaranty, provided they earn it by good management and efficiency. The farmer can place no burden on the roads; but the roads can, and propose to, place it on him.

Can this country afford further to burden its basic industry with higher rates on the production and distribution of the raw material that feeds the nation?

This campaign for the people should be launched and should be pushed until it receives recognition by the servants of the people. To the hue and cry of multimillionaire speculators and owners of railroad stocks, that railroads must have more money in order to prosper, the complete answer is that the money cannot come from levying further taxation upon an already overburdened farm production. Such a course would only serve to lessen production, to the destruction of the prosperity, not only of the country as a whole, but of the railroads themselves.

It is the right of a railroad to earn what it can on fair and reasonable rates and good service. To the public it is a matter of necessity, and to the farmer a matter also of right, that the increases, should they be required, must in fairness, and for the purpose of preventing hunger, come from other sources than live stock and farm products.

The railroad labor cost cannot long continue to be increased, if the increase is to be added to freight rates. Neither organized labor nor capital has the right to saddle this burden on the stockmen and farmers. It will but lead back to the endless chain of increasing the cost of living. This billion-dollar raise may be put on paper, but if the roads get the money they will be sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind.

The remedy, both for the railroads and for the public, in my opinion is:

1. Force the railroads, from top to bottom, to work for a living like other people, and to do it efficiently and economically—which means less expense and less profit—rather than to devote their best thought to schemes for rate increases.

2. If, then, a fair return on real investments judiciously made (but not on unearned increments or inflated values, based on the value of abutting property used for other than railroad purposes) justifies higher rates, levy them first on passenger, baggage and express, merchandise and manufacture, and such other traffic as would tend to distribute them most widely and in the least burdensome ways, and place the minimum burden, if any, on the products of the farm and ranch.

3. Subject the roads to a scrutinizing investigation, in order to determine the truth and justice of their claims; and then inform the public whether or not what they have had and are to get from Uncle Sam is enough.

(a) The standard return of the federal control law gives the railroads a right to the average earnings of the three years next previous to June 30, 1917. This continues to September 1, 1920.

(b) The roads not accepting have the privilege of recovering compensation before the court of claims, unless otherwise settled.

(c) The government must return the property in as good condition as when taken over, or pay the damage.

(d) Whatever equipment has been destroyed, or made obsolete and put out of service, should be compensated by the government, and not by the shippers through increased rates.

(e) All locomotives, shop machinery, and tools should be by the government immediately put in as good condition as when received.

(f) There should be taken from the revolving fund—which should be increased to the amount necessary—the money needed for immediate additions to sidings, yardage, and terminal facilities, in order to relieve all congestion, and for new locomotives and cars.

4. When these things are done, as they should be done, without increasing the rates, the commission should compel the railroads to comply with that provision of the new law which is made the basis of any right to advance the rates, or otherwise to make them conform to the 5½ per cent basis—viz., to manage and operate their properties efficiently and economically. This should be a condition precedent to any advance in rates. Advances should not precede, but should follow, the doing of those things specified in paragraph 3 above.

When put to the necessity of doing these things as a condition to any advance in rates, it will be found that the railroads can accomplish them, and that the advances in the rates on necessities can be reduced to a low figure. The railroad labor of the country will prove loyal to the efforts of the management, which will result in a reduction in the cost of living without any reduction in wages until the living cost has come down. Thus the enormous gross earnings of the railroads of today under war-time rates furnish ample money to afford net earnings, if this program is carried out, that will render advances in rates unnecessary.

In this way the business of the country and the traffic will be encouraged and increased. In the course of time a reduction in rates may easily follow, and yet the net earnings increase. And, as these reductions come, and the business of the country is relieved of the burden of excessive charges, development will follow, the cost of living will decline, and it is not saying too much to predict that wages may be reduced to keep pace with the reduced cost of living.

So intimately interwoven with the fabric of the business, and particularly the farm production, of the country are transportation service and transportation charges that this whole problem is one of the most important confronting the country today. The question is: Will our public men, and those who have to do with these subjects—railroad executives, managers, and others charged with duties in these particulars—respond with an effort thus to solve the problem, to the end of increasing the net earnings both of the railroads and of their employees, and yet reducing the cost to the producer and the consumer? As yet little or no effort has been made along this line.

It should, therefore, be an imperious demand on the part of the people that it be done, and that until it is done these proposed rate advances on the products of the farm and ranch be either altogether disallowed or reduced to a very low minimum, and that the total advance be limited to actual necessity after all these other means have been exhausted by energetic and faithful work.

SAM H. COWAN.

"I have taken THE PRODUCER from the first number and find it a great help to me in many ways. In my opinion, all stockmen should have it on file."—D. C. Kelty, Otter, Mont.

"I congratulate you on the paper you are issuing. You are doing a good work."—W. T. Peryam, Encampment, Wyo.

MONTANA CONVENTION WELL ATTENDED

JEFFERS, MONT., May 10, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The Montana Stockgrowers' Association held a very successful and well-attended meeting in Billings, April 20-21, 1920, in spite of the bad storms which cut off all attendance from the south.

The resolutions adopted were not startling. In fact, the only one that caused any discussion in the committee was that dealing with the packer policy. We finally agreed on one that recommended no legislation until the Palmer injunction has had time to work. There was no chance to get an indorsement of the Gronna bill; neither was there any chance to condemn it. It looks to me as if the members were undecided. There has been so much said on both sides that they are on the fence. They are certainly not pro-packer.

All the officers of the association were re-elected, as follows: Wallis Huidekoper, Billings, president; G. B. Pope, Miles City, vice-president; W. K. Flowerree, Great Falls, vice-president; D. W. Raymond, Helena, secretary-treasurer.

The spring has been very backward, and heavy losses in both cattle and sheep have been the rule since April 1. As yet there is little grass. The lamb crop will be very short.

D. W. RAYMOND.

CATTLE CONDITIONS IN EASTERN KANSAS

MAPLE HILL, KAN., June 3, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The pastures in this section of the country are considerably lighter stocked than usual. Practically all carry 25 per cent less stock, with some showing a reduction of 50 per cent. The general steer population in this county probably runs about 30 per cent short of normal. People refuse to handle the high-priced western range cattle under present conditions, and during the last few weeks the banks, by refusing cattle loans or charging excessive interest rates, have strengthened this tendency.

The estimates on live-stock shortage in Kansas put out by the various organizations run from 25 to 50 per cent. The latter figure, however, I believe to be too high.

The season here is about two weeks late. Few cattle were seen on grass before May 8. Had not the pastures been lightly stocked, I do not believe they would have carried them then. The grass was very slow in coming, owing to lack of warmth. However, as we have not been bothered with flies, and have had ideal grazing weather, cattle have done exceptionally well, and I think they are gaining more rapidly than normal. The grass seems to have added strength. Stock water in this neighborhood is abundant for all summer, but about sixty miles south and west of here there was considerable need of heavy rains a few days ago.

JAMES TOD.

CONDITIONS GOOD IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA

TUCSON, ARIZ., May 24, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Southern Arizona is in fine shape, as far as feed and water are concerned. Cattle are all fat, which is a godsend to the ranchers, since many contracts have been carried over until fall. Our calf crop is good, and will be better and earlier in 1921, as many cows are being bred now in May. From the range point of view, everything is O. K.; but there is always a fly in the ointment, and now, with high money rates, drought in California, and the late season up north, we are "out of luck." The star of the future, however, looks bright to the fellow who can see it through the clouds, and no doubt we shall all reap our reward ere the year rolls around.

It has always been the fashion to have bad conditions, financially, in presidential years, and this year is no exception. But so long as men have money they are going to eat beef and use beef products. Today cattle are the only product which is away down—below everything else—and cattle must "come back." The fellow who stays with the game is sure of his reward.

W. M. MARTENY.

LIVE-STOCK BUSINESS UNPROFITABLE

MOORECROFT, WYO., May 20, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

We have closed out all of our interest in the live-stock and ranch business, due to a few simple reasons, as follows:

1. That we cannot continue business under present conditions.
2. That the cost of living and labor is utterly out of proportion to the price we get on what we have to sell.
3. That we cannot produce cattle, and sell them for less than the cost of production.

Consequently we have adopted the only solution in sight, and have retired from the live-stock game. For myself, I expect to get a job and join the laboring class—or, rather, get a "position," as "jobs" seem to be out of fashion these days.

E. D. HUME,
General Manager, Hume & Rivenburgh.

NORTHERN ARIZONA RANGE IN GOOD CONDITION

PUNTENNEY, ARIZ., May 23, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Range and cattle conditions in northern Arizona are good. We have just had a good rain, which will still further improve the situation. So far very few steers have been sold from this section this year. The best class of one-, two-, and three-year olds are held at \$40, \$50, and \$60, respectively. We welcome cattle-buyers to look at our stock.

M. A. PERKINS.

PROSPECTS FAVORABLE IN NORTHERN TEXAS

SLATON, TEX., May 11, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

Conditions in this immediate neighborhood are fairly good, and stock is doing well. Recent rains have greatly improved the grass, and prospects for a good calf crop are excellent. Not many cattle are changing hands as yet.

A. B. ROBERTSON.

COST OF GROWING WHEAT IN KANSAS

LARNED, KAN., May 21, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I herewith inclose a statement of the cost of growing wheat in central Kansas. It was this statement that was used by the National Wheat Growers' Association as a basis for the actual cost of producing an acre of wheat in 1919.

We find the average yield per acre to be twelve bushels in central Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Nebraska. The average cost per acre is \$33.06, making \$2.75½ the cost of raising a bushel of No. 2 red winter wheat, or the average bushel of wheat delivered in the local elevators. We add for profit 10 per cent, or 28 cents per bushel; for freight from central Kansas to Kansas City, Mo., 10 cents per bushel; making a total of \$3.13 per bushel at Kansas City, Galveston, Minneapolis, and St. Paul.

The National Wheat Growers' Association asked that these figures be published, so that the whole world might know the actual cost of producing wheat in the greatest wheat-producing states in the Union. The association feels that wheat-growers are entitled to a fair percentage of profit added to the cost of producing wheat. Unless we do get a fair profit, we feel that it would not be right to ask the farmers to produce wheat as they have in the past.

The records for Kansas show the loss to be \$1.52 per bushel on each acre of wheat produced last year. In order to produce the wheat at the price we have estimated, we cannot afford to pay more than 70 cents an hour for the harvest and threshing hands. The State of Kansas alone will need 100,000 extra men to help harvest and thresh the crop of 1920. We estimate that harvest will begin in south-central Kansas about June 15, in central Kansas about June 20, and in northern Kansas about June 25.

Through the columns of your magazine we desire to publish the actual cost of producing wheat, the price that we consider fair for selling wheat, and the price that we are willing to pay to help harvest the crop. These figures are as follows:

Land value (\$80.00 per acre, interest at 7 per cent)....	\$5.60
Taxes (2 per cent).....	1.60
General upkeep, fences, etc.....	.60
Plowing, per acre.....	3.00
Double harrowing	1.00
Drilling .....	.75
Seed (1 bushel per acre).....	2.75
Hail and fire insurance (\$32.00 per acre, at 8 per cent) ..	2.56
Heading and stacking	4.00
Threshing (12 bushels at 25 cents).....	3.00
Hauling (12 bushels 5 miles, 1 cent per bushel per mile) ..	.60
Interest on soil preparation and seed.....	.45
Loss of 20 per cent of wheat planted.....	1.50
Soil depletion	3.65
Farm management	1.00
Pasture lands used in connection with wheat acreage....	1.00

Average for central Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Nebraska, 12 bushels.....12) 33.06

Profit (10 per cent)..... 2.75½
28

Freight to Kansas City..... 3.03
10

Net price of No. 2 hard wheat delivered..... \$3.13

E. E. FRIZELL,
Farm-Help Specialist, Department
of Agriculture, State of Kansas.

AN APPRECIATION

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

May 26, 1920.

Mr. T. W. Tomlinson,
Managing Editor, "The Producer."

Dear Mr. Tomlinson:

I have just seen a copy of your May issue, and have noted with much pleasure a number of articles about the work of the Department of Agriculture. I want to write you just a note to tell you how I appreciate the aid you are giving this department, and the people whom it serves, in thus telling your readers of its work and its service. Such appreciation of the value of the department's information on the part of editors is very gratifying to me, and to all of us here in the department, in our efforts to improve this service and extend its benefits to more citizens of this country.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) E. T. MEREDITH,
Secretary.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

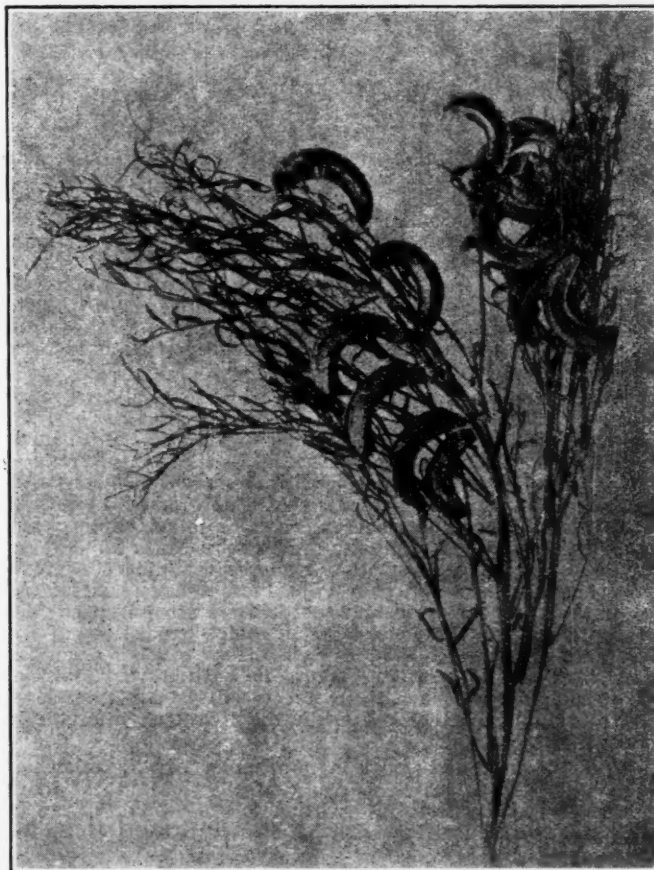
A NEW POISONOUS PLANT OF UTAH AND NEVADA

IN OUR APRIL NUMBER we mentioned the discovery of a new sheep-poisoning plant from the southern states—*Daubentonia longifolia*, locally known as "coffee bean." We are now in position to supplement our description with a picture of the plant, together with one of another weed which has lately been found to possess poisonous qualities.

The latter plant, which likewise belongs to the pea family, and is thus related to the locoes, is known to botanists as *Astragalus tetraapterus*. So far it has been observed only in the foothills of southern Utah and western Nevada, but may have a wider distribution. It occurs in scattered patches, and never in large quantities, as is the case with some of the recognized loco plants. It blooms early in June, and generally dries up later in the summer. It is a perennial plant, standing from one



DAUBENTONIA LONGIFOLIA ("COFFEE BEAN")
(See April "Producer," page 24)



ASTRAGALUS TETRAPTERUS
Showing the Form of the Seed-Pods

to two feet high. It has linear leaves, small and rather inconspicuous flowers of a light-purple color, and peculiar pods possessing four wings—a feature which makes identification rather easy. Early in the season, before new pods are formed, those of the preceding year ordinarily can be found on the old plants.

Apparently the symptoms caused by eating this poisonous weed are not especially characteristic. The animal affected staggers as it walks, the weakness being more pronounced in the hind legs. In the case of a steer there were mild spasms, with violent expirations. In a sheep, which was killed by eating the plant, there were nausea and an excessive flow of saliva, in addition to depression and weakness.

At this state of the investigation no advice can be given as to the treatment of poisoned animals, the scientists of the Department of Agriculture state. Stockmen should recognize, however, that the plant is injurious to cattle and sheep, and

probably also to horses. When other forage is lacking, the eating of this plant in large quantities may cause serious losses. If a heavily grazed range where the plant is abundant is used, it is reasonable to expect some deaths among the animals. Those becoming affected should be removed to where they can get abundant feed. Probably alfalfa pasture is particularly desirable.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOSTERING TRADE RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AMERICA

FROM EDWIN T. MEREDITH, Secretary of Agriculture, we have received a communication relative to the efforts of the department to promote trade in pure-bred live stock between the United States and South America, part of which we quote, as follows:

"WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17, 1920.

"Mr. T. W. Tomlinson,

"Secretary, American National Live Stock Association.

"DEAR MR. TOMLINSON:

"The Department of Agriculture, through the Foreign Markets Service of the Bureau of Markets, is making an effort to develop trade in pure-bred live stock with South America. Last year two live-stock commissioners—David Harrell and H. P. Morgan—were sent to South America to make a preliminary survey. As a result, important contacts were made, and several hundred pure-bred cattle and hogs, valued at approximately a half-million dollars, have been sent to South America. The principal trade has been with Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina. Preliminary reports on the live-stock business in these three countries have been issued.

"Arrangements are again being made to send two representatives of the department to South America. They are planning to leave the United States about June 15. L. B. Burk, of the Bureau of Markets, and E. Z. Russell, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, have been selected for this work. Their work will be to follow up the shipments that have already been made, to get information as to whether the stock is satisfactory, and to gain further information as to the best procedure for developing additional trade. Now that trade is established there is special need for information as to business arrangements necessary in order to facilitate trade with the United States. The commissioners will also attend the live-stock expositions at Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo, and Buenos Aires. As the American Swine Growers' Association expects to have a view herd of sixty head at these expositions, there will be an exceptional opportunity to make contacts with the live-stock interests in South America.

"I may add that a plan is now under consideration for establishing one or more offices, centrally located in South America, to give accurate information to prospective buyers in regard to details in importing live stock from the United States.

"Very truly yours,

"E. T. MEREDITH,
"Secretary."

SALE OF GOVERNMENT STOCKS OF FROZEN BEEF

ABOUT the middle of last month the Director of Sales announced that less than 6,000,000 pounds of the army supply of fresh frozen beef remained unsold on May 7. Since April 13 the beef had been purchased by the public at an average of 500,000 pounds a day. At this rate it was expected that the entire surplus would be exhausted in less than ten days. The beef was sold at the fixed price of 10½ cents, f. o. b. storage point.

In addition to these sales of fresh frozen beef, the Quartermaster Corps during the same period sold 233,689 cans of roast beef, 69,346 cans of corned beef, 9,568 cans of corned-beef hash, and 25,045 cans of bacon, as well as quantities of pork shoulders and sausage. A further supply of these items was on hand, and available for immediate sale at prices materially below current market quotations.

PREVENTION OF FOREST FIRES

"One tree will make a million matches,
but one match can destroy a million trees."

WITH THE DISASTROUS FOREST FIRES of the summer of 1919 fresh in mind, the Forest Service is taking energetic steps to lessen the danger of a repetition during the coming season. Active co-operation on the part of state governments, the press, various civic agencies, and individual citizens has been invited and is beginning to bear fruit. Thus, by proclamation of their respective governors, the states of the intermountain territory and the Pacific Northwest set aside the period of May 23-29 as "Forest Protection Week," during which field officers of the Service, through lectures, pamphlets, etc., sought to bring home to the people of this region, where the destruction has been the greatest, the vital importance of united effort toward reducing this serious menace to our remaining timber supplies.

Origins of forest fires, of course, are many. A few of them are beyond the control of man; the great majority, however, are preventable. Chief among the avoidable causes are the throwing of lighted cigar and cigaret stubs into the dry grass or undergrowth, careless brush-burning, and camp-fires left burning by hunters or tourists. Appealing to the latter class, the Forest Service has published the following rules:

- "1. Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.
- "2. Throw pipe ashes and cigar or cigaret stubs in the dust of the road, and stamp or pinch out the fire before leaving them. Don't throw them into brush, leaves, or needles.
- "3. Build a small camp-fire. Build it in the open, not against a tree or log or near brush. Scrape away the litter from all around it.
- "4. Never leave a camp-fire, even for a short time, without quenching it with water and earth.
- "5. Never build bonfires in windy weather, or where there is the slightest danger of their escaping.
- "6. If you find a fire, try to put it out. If you cannot, get word of it to the nearest forest ranger or state fire warden at once. Keep in touch with the rangers."

GOVERNMENT AID IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION

ROAD-BUILDING PROGRAMS in the Southwest, state and federal, have been given another impetus through the passage of the Kahn bill and its approval by the President. Provision is herein made for the transfer to the Department of Agriculture and the various states of all surplus road-building equipment now held by the War Department which can be put to practical use. Included is also a provision for transfer of excess motor equipment, which in turn may be assigned by the state highway departments to any state agency or municipal corporation for constructing and maintaining public highways. The Forest Service benefits by a clause in the bill making provision for the transfer of surplus telephone supplies to that Service. Funds have always been limited for this work, even though many isolated regions of the mountains of the Southwest depend solely upon Forest Service lines for communication with the outside world.

The Chamberlain bill, recently introduced in the Senate, is now in the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads of that body. While its passage, of course, is conjectural, it is regarded as likely that it will go through in its present or some modified form. This bill provides for the expenditure of \$100,000,000 a year, for the four years following 1921, for the purpose of aiding states in the construction of rural post-roads. It is contemplated that the states taking advantage of the co-operative feature of the act will contribute approximately an equal amount of state money for the same purpose. It is intended that preference shall be given to such projects as will expedite the completion of an adequate national highway system connecting at the state boundaries. Of especial interest to western states,

which comprise within their boundaries the bulk of the national forest acreage of the nation, is an additional clause appropriating \$10,000,000 a year, for each of the ten years following 1921, for the construction of national-forest roads and trails. This means the opening-up by road and trail systems of practically all the areas at present isolated or poorly accessible, and the improvement of many methods of travel now unadapted to modern means of conveyance. A vast benefit to live-stock and agricultural interests hinges upon this prospective development.

STOCK-CARS MUST BE KEPT THOROUGHLY CLEAN

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION of railroad stock-cars is an important means of preventing the spread of infectious diseases among live stock, the Bureau of Animal Industry points out. In connection with federal control over interstate transportation of live stock, it is required that all such cars, or other vehicles which have contained animals affected with a communicable disease—such as tick fever, scabies of sheep and cattle, hog cholera, etc.—be cleaned and disinfected under bureau supervision before being again used in interstate commerce.

All live stock received at public stock-yards or at official slaughtering establishments is inspected by employees of the bureau at the time it is received. If any animals are found to be affected with a communicable disease, the carrier which brought them to their destination is at once notified to have the car or other vehicle set aside and thoroughly cleaned. After that has been accomplished, it is disinfected under the personal supervision of a federal employee.

Various states also have regulations requiring that cars must be cleaned and disinfected before being used in the transportation of certain classes of live stock. The Bureau of Animal Industry co-operates with such states by having its employees at central markets supervise the cleaning and disinfection of cars in compliance with the requirements of the state to which any stock may be destined.

An idea of the magnitude of this work may be gathered from the fact that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1919, bureau employees personally supervised the disinfection of 44,843 cars. In addition, a large number of motor trucks were handled in the same manner.

CURING HIDES AND SKINS

FOR THE INSTRUCTION of those who butcher their own animals, the Department of Agriculture, in Farmers' Bulletin 1055, recently published, gives detailed directions for skinning, curing, and marketing country hides and skins. We quote the following extract:

"Hides should be salted only with clean, pure salt, free from alum, in order to produce a high-grade leather. Salt containing alum partly tans the hide and sets the hair so that it cannot be removed. Hides which cannot be unhaired properly bring a loss to the tanner, and prejudice him in future purchases against hides from the same source.

"Tanners recently submitted to the Bureau of Chemistry green salted hides which could not be unhaired after liming in the usual way, in order to find out the cause. An examination showed that, on the basis of the dry hide, unhaired spots contained 0.8 per cent of alumina, and the portions where the hair was not loosened contained 1.25 per cent of alumina. The portions of the hide which contained 0.8 per cent alumina unhaired with difficulty, while the portions containing 1.25 per cent could not be unhaired even on the beam. An inferior salt containing alum had been used in salting the hides, and had set the hair.

"This incident illustrates the importance of attention to details in the handling and curing of hides and skins. The presence of alum in salt is especially objectionable. As little as 5 per cent can usually be detected by its astringent, bitter taste."

THE MARKETS

CATTLE MARKET AT BEGINNING OF JUNE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., June 1, 1920.

ATURN IN THE TIDE of cattle-market affairs was detected at the inception of June. While it is admittedly no time to be a bull concerning anything having value, certain signs, usually infallible, indicated that depreciation had run its course, although summer readjustment has yet to be effected. This will naturally take the character of spread-widening. Commission houses that have been reluctant to say anything encouraging concerning the future changed their line of talk, prices promptly recovered from such breaks as left the market sluggish and unresponsive a few weeks previous, and on every short run competition was in evidence, even plain, heavy steers acting better. During May the tail end of the heavy winter-made crop of beef was worked down, a heavy run of grass Texans was absorbed, and a slight improvement in beef demand, due to tardy reduction of retail cost, was recorded. The principal bear argument is that beef consumption has been curtailed. Bullish points may be enumerated as follows:

Indications Pointing to Improved Conditions

Passing of the residue of the winter-made crop of heavy cattle into strong hands, thousands having been thrown out on grass, to be distributed over a longer period than would otherwise have been the case;

Absence of the crop of 100,000 to 150,000 Peoria, Pekin, and Terre Haute distillery cattle which packers have heretofore had at their disposal during the June-to-August period;

Light summer beef-making on grass—a typical sequence of the bad winter fat-cattle market;

Dearth of grass beef in the Northwest, due to the drought last summer, followed by heavy winter mortality;

A moderate run of grassers from Oklahoma and Kansas pastures;

Elimination of the western-Canadian supply of grass beef, the probability being that Alberta and Saskatchewan will not have more than enough to care for domestic requirements.

Shortage of Feeder Stock in Canada

The first intimation of western deficiency was when feeder-buyers returned empty-handed from that quarter. Bruce Frazier, writing from Calgary late in May, said:

"No such thing as feeders up this way, as anything with a little grease on its ribs goes for beef. Thin stockers are worth \$10.50 to \$11 that could not realize \$9 in Chicago; butchers are paying \$14.50 for the grade of cattle selling in Chicago at \$10.75; cutting cows are realizing \$12 to \$12.50, and fair killing steers \$15.50 to \$15.65. I saw one fat steer sell here at \$17, that kind being scarce. Hogs are worth \$22.50, and 500-pound calves \$15. I looked at thousands of cattle that were priced far above Chicago quotations, but were so thin that they could not stand shipping."

Beef-Crop Movement to Be Deficient

Conditions in the Northwest are better than this tale indicates, but it is doubtful if the entire grazing region north of the latitude of Chicago will gather more than 60 per cent of last year's beef crop. Unless financial conditions improve, some liquidation may be necessary that will swell the movement. Suggestion of this was gleaned from what an Omaha banker told Charles Escher, of Botna, Ia., the other day. Escher was dubi-

ous about stocking his pasture immediately, and was advised by the banker to exercise patience. "Along next fall you will find a lot of cattle ordered in to square accounts," he said, "and in my opinion you will make money by waiting." Regardless of what the money-lenders do, however, the movement will be deficient. It is also highly probable that a job will await every stock steer available. This demand will, of course, depend to a large extent on the corn crop and the influence which recent experience will exert on feeding operations; but the trade realizes that it is running into a stock-cattle shortage. This has been heralded recently when Wisconsin grass-owners were under the necessity of paying \$12.50 to \$13.50 per cwt. for mature steers, securing them at that price only in competition with packers. Had demand for stock cattle been normal this spring, it would have been impossible to fill orders. The movement from the central markets to grass east of the Missouri River has been 25 per cent less than last year, and shows a disposition to dwindle as the season advances. All through April and May eastern roads refused to handle stock-cattle business except on a limited scale, and in Iowa and Illinois grass by the hundred thousand acres was without bovine tenants on June 1 that normally carries its full quota for summer feeding. This was due to the unsatisfactory cattle market, a late grazing season, a tight money market, high cost of corn and concentrates, and scarcity of roughage. Commission houses and packers, having taken a survey of the situation, display alarm.

Corn Belt Grazers May Hold Cattle

The fact that cattle have not changed hands cuts little figure in beef production. But in second hands they are always a step nearer the finishing stage. One thing is certain: Probably not 50 per cent of the animals usually converted into beef east of the Missouri River during the summer and fall grazing period will go to market. A man with grass growing on his hands, and habituated to beef-making, is invariably nervous when idle, and, should finished beef advance substantially as the summer works along, this element will be more disposed to take a chance. In recent years packers have had a percentage of heavy western cattle to satisfy urgent needs; this year few will come from that source, so that a \$16 market for such bullocks as have recently sold at \$12 is not an improbability.

Disposal of Government Stores a Handicap

One handicap under which the dressed-beef market has been laboring for six months past is continuous liquidation of the huge store of frozen stuff owned by the government. This has been vended at \$13 to \$14 per cwt., most of it going to hotels, large restaurants, and public institutions. Its quality and condition were alike good, resulting in "repeat" orders. Its presence on the market was doubtless responsible for a handicap of \$1 per cwt. on heavy cattle. Once out of the way, dressed trade will be relieved.

Eastern cattle were marketed freely during the strike period, the Texas crop of grassers will have gone to the shambles by July 1, and, as summer hotel trade invariably creates a broad demand for good beef during July and August, prediction of a better set of markets seems warranted. Grass rose late in the Northwest, and, as cattle are thin, no early beef is to be expected from that quarter.

Curtailed Consumption Chief Depressing Factor

At the risk of repetition, it may be said that restriction of consumption is the chief bear argument. Another is the steadily declining value of hides and by-product, prompting packers to charge heavier imposts against beef. At this writing they are crediting the steer with only 15 cents per pound on hides. The hide situation is distinctly weak. Stocks of cattle hides, according to the March 31 enumeration, were 1,400,000 pieces greater than a year ago. Calfskins and kips increased from 1,600,000 to 2,900,000 pieces, and goat, kid, and cabretta have increased

10,000,000 pieces. A report comes from India that the government intends to place a six-months' embargo on hide exports, which should exert a strengthening influence; but there is a tendency on the part of the public to economize in the use of leather goods, especially footwear, hides are piling up in packers' cellars, and it is not improbable that prices will work still lower.

Market Reaching Post-War Basis

Bullish logic dominates, however. Every lane has a turn; probably the cattle market has reached a post-war basis. Values have certainly been deflated with a vengeance. In forming conclusions as to what may happen late in the summer, it will be well to take into the reckoning the fact that a large portion of the 1919 corn crop is still in growers' hands, as railroads have been unable to get it to terminal points. Corn is now slumping, and, should fat cattle advance \$2 per cwt., Illinois and Iowa feeders would have incentive to go down into Kansas and Oklahoma pastures, buy sappy grass steers by the thousand, and put them on grain. Packers have before been known to remedy an impending beef shortage by boosting prices artificially, and may resort to the same measures again. Much of the Texas stuff that went to Kansas and Oklahoma grass this season lacked age, and by August or September will be admirably adapted to a short corn-crib cross. Should this movement develop, the visible supply of grass beef would be further curtailed.

PREMATURE MARKETING THREATENED AT KANSAS CITY

BY SAMUEL SOSLAND

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 2, 1920.

MORE ATTENTION is being given in the Kansas City yards to the possibility of premature marketing of range cattle and range sheep on account of the strained money situation than to any other phase of the trade in live stock. Efforts to obtain special government funds and special rates at the Federal Reserve Bank here for financing live-stock enterprises have thus far brought no definite results, and there is little or no indication of any success in that direction. The Kansas City Live Stock Exchange has asked Secretary of the Treasury Houston for a special deposit of \$10,000,000 in Kansas City for use in making cattle loans at the Federal Reserve Bank. Also, local live-stock interests have been instrumental in bringing out Senator Capper's proposal for a \$40,000,000 revolving fund. Aside from emphasizing the great importance of the financial situation to live-stock interests, these measures have been without avail thus far.

Bankers of the Southwest already have begun to give notice to range-cattle interests of their intention to reduce the volume of outstanding loans. Unless there is a radical and unexpected change in the money situation, this is likely to result in heavy marketings of beef calves for veal, and to bring about the sale of many breeding cows of good ages. The fact that Kansas City received 16,122 calves in May—the largest number on record for that month and 1,416 over the total of a year ago—is significant.

With the New York and Chicago Federal Reserve Banks having advanced their discount rates on commercial and agricultural paper to 7 per cent, compared with 6 per cent a month ago, and with the Kansas City, St. Louis, and Dallas Federal Reserve Banks enforcing the progressive system of discount rates—which means discount rates without limit on excess loans over a basic line to each member bank—loan rates on cattle are very high. But, with the Federal Reserve system heavily loaned up, loans are difficult to obtain even at high rates.

If the Kansas City district could obtain more box-cars, its sales of old wheat would enable it to relieve greatly the needs

of live-stock interests lacking credit. But cars are short, and the generous new wheat crop in sight may not return money fast enough to effect a material improvement in the cattle-purchasing power of such states as Kansas. In the event the tightness of money diverts box-cars from the automobile and other industries of a nonessential character, the freight situation may improve and help the cattle market.

As a result of a sharp break in wool prices, with the consequent delay in the sale of the fleece, the money situation will tell more than expected a month ago in sheep-marketing. The question of financing purchases of feeding lambs is already receiving careful study.

The great summer-grazing districts of Kansas are carrying only 75 per cent of the number of cattle they had at this time a year ago, owing to the damper put on buying by tight money and the losses of last season. The Santa Fe Railroad has moved less than 4,000 cars from Texas and New Mexico to the summer pastures of Kansas, against a total of 5,500 cars in the spring of 1919.

While receipts of cattle here last month were lighter than a year ago, depression in prices was the rule. Recessions amounted to as much as \$2. Some 1,600-pound steers from Kansas sold at \$12.80, losing the feeder more than \$150 a head. Losses of \$40 to \$60 a head on fed steers were common. Calves broke as much as \$4. The general trade was again affected by the switchmen's strike, but this influence has practically disappeared. Stocker and feeder trade was quiet, with the money situation telling, although some feeders sold as high as \$12.75. Feeders are now quoted mostly at \$8 to \$11, and stockers at \$7 to \$10.50. Stock cows and heifers at \$6 to \$9 have been popular. There is hope of a turn for the better on corn-fed cattle. Texas continues to sell grass-fat steers freely, her shipments being of excellent quality, with sales largely around \$10.

On the hog market receipts increased, and prices held steady on fed offerings. Stock hogs slumped \$2, owing to the great disparity between corn and fed hogs. Local packers have experienced some improvement in the export trade in hog products.

Lamb and sheep prices receded \$2 to \$3. Texas was a heavy shipper, sending many goats, which sold as low as \$4.50. New Zealand lamb was offered here for the first time. Breeding ewes and feeding lambs were in poor demand.

Happily, pasture conditions over the entire Southwest are excellent.

THE HOG AND PROVISION SITUATION

BY JAMES E. POOLE

ATEN-PER-CENT DECREASE in hog production in the Mississippi and Missouri Valley region, where the bulk of the commercial crop is raised, compared with that of the corresponding period last year, is indicated for the first five months of 1920 by Bureau of Market statistics. West of the Missouri Valley the decrease has been more marked, especially on the Pacific coast, where prices were out of line all through the war period; otherwise a westward movement from Nebraska and South Dakota would not be possible. Corn and hogs have been so radically out of line all winter that further curtailment of production is certain. During May the stock-pig market at Kansas City and St. Louis slumped sharply, indicative of indisposition to continue the unprofitable process of converting grain into pork and lard. As in the case of heavy cattle, the big hog has been unpopular all winter, due to a steady accumulation of lard. At one time light hogs were worth \$15.50 and heavy lard-yielders \$13.50—an abnormally wide spread, unwarranted by relative high cost of butter and vegetable fats compared with lard. Butter at 60 cents and lard at 20 cents suggest that something is out of joint, and when that occurs readjustment is inevitable.

Transportation handicaps were partly responsible, hogs by the hundred thousand being held until weighing 300 to 350 pounds, because they could not be put on the rails. Germany's inability to buy lard was another handicap to the big hog at the market. During May, however, packers were able to clean up an enormous accumulation of meats and lard stored at European ports. It went to Germany on a bargain basis, but is out of the way, thus clearing the decks for revival of export trade, which had declined to small volume.

Provision stocks are heavy at the inception of the summer season; but this is not necessarily a bear argument, as the accumulation is in packers' hands, and they are naturally not averse to enhancing the value of their property by countenancing a bull hog market. So enormous are their holdings that an appreciation of 1 to 2 cents per pound would mean substantial profit; consequently a light summer run of hogs will spell higher prices, especially if German credit improves and England resumes purchasing, which she must sooner or later.

Consumption of fresh pork, hams, and bacon is enormous. Scores of small killers are handling hogs, creating lively competition on light and medium grades, and the South has resumed buying both meats and lard. Packers have been putting up droves at \$13 to \$14 per cwt. at Chicago and Missouri River markets, and, with a favorable summer distributive season, should recoup some of the loss they sustained on 1919 operations.

DRESSED-LAMB IMPORTS DISASTROUS

BY JAMES E. POOLE

FORTUNATELY FOR COLORADO LAMB-FEEDERS, packers refrained from importing New Zealand lamb until the bulk of their season's production had been marketed; otherwise results would have been less remunerative. The foreign invasion was well timed, a boat-load of 251,000 carcasses—equal to half the season's output of northern Colorado feed-lots—reaching Boston at mid-May, when domestic markets were almost bare. This frozen stuff was promptly distributed all over the country, to take advantage of the high dressed market, the logical result being a crash in domestic prices. When distribution of the New Zealand product began, woolled Colorado lambs were selling at \$20.75, and shorn stock at \$19.25, on the Chicago market. Within ten days declines of \$2 to \$3 per cwt. had been effected, and, instead of getting a daily clearance, as had been the case all winter, commission houses were under the necessity of carrying stale stock over from day to day. The Swift concern refrained from getting into the export game, and at this period was the only live wire in the domestic market, enabling its buyers practically to determine prices.

Packer publicists have proclaimed the excellence of this frozen New Zealand lamb vociferously, if not convincingly. In fact, the consuming public has had no opportunity to determine the matter, as, so far as I can ascertain, every pound has been vended in the guise of domestic product. Personal experience is convincing that not only is the frozen New Zealand article inferior to the domestic product, but the practice of sending it into consumptive channels in disguise is calculated to nullify the beneficial effects of the "Eat More Lamb" campaign inaugurated a year ago by the National Wool Growers' Association. Sold for what it is, the public would have had an opportunity to judge the foreign product on its merits, whereas its deficiencies have been charged to the domestic product.

Packers are not to blame, as every pound of frozen stuff left their coolers properly tagged. Retailers, on being remonstrated with, argued that they were under no obligation to

disclose the origin of the stuff. In fact, they realized that, had consumers known what they were buying, it could not have been sold.

At the outset New Zealand lamb sold freely at 28 to 31 cents per pound, wholesale, in Chicago. Retailers charged the same prices as for fresh-killed stuff. Much of it went to hotels and restaurants, where it was served in disguise—with what damage to an expanding demand for lamb, as a result of the recent campaign, can only be conjectured.

The obvious remedy is a federal law requiring retailers to abstain from such deception under penalty. If foreign frozen meats are to be admitted free of duty to the United States market, both producers and consumers should be protected to this extent.

American consumers have never taken to frozen meats. In this instance they have run true to form. Few retailers have ordered New Zealand frozen stuff a second time, in consequence of protests by their customers. As a result it was necessary to cut the wholesale price 5 cents per pound, the probability being that much of it will be left on the hands of importers. The British government has a stock of several million carcasses in New Zealand and Australia, for which it is anxious to find an outlet, so that, if the American market would absorb it, which is doubtful, domestic growers would encounter foreign competition right along.

This lamb purports to be the Canterbury article—New Zealand's best product—and January kill. In cooking, it emits a disagreeable odor; the color is bad and the flavor deficient. It is stringy, although tender, and decidedly inferior in every respect to fresh-killed domestic product.

STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY of storage holdings of frozen and cured meats on May 1, 1920, compared with April 1, 1920, and May 1, 1919, as announced by the Bureau of Markets:

Commodity	May 1, 1920 (Pounds)	April 1, 1920 (Pounds)	May 1, 1919 (Pounds)
Frozen beef.....	170,263,110	196,890,381	184,585,690
Cured beef.....	30,157,646	35,047,105	27,821,635
Lamb and mutton....	2,570,861	3,517,223	7,622,584
Frozen pork.....	143,928,638	148,921,500	139,205,434
Dry salt pork.....	460,550,910	457,744,724	425,411,423
Pickled pork.....	351,928,017	361,972,742	434,671,258
Lard.....	141,423,605	132,992,638	112,409,243
Miscellaneous.....	87,580,952	100,048,121	113,124,992

RAW STOCKS OF HIDES AND SKINS

FOLLOWING ARE THE STOCKS of the different classes of hides and skins held in the United States on March 31, 1920, according to reports furnished by dealers, packers, importers, and tanners to the Bureau of Markets. The figures are supposed to represent from 85 to 90 per cent of the total holdings in the country on that date:

Cattle hides	6,544,941
Calf and kip skins.....	2,896,073
Horse, colt, donkey, etc.....	884,471
Kangaroo, deer, etc.....	1,162,692
Goat, kid, and cabretta skins.....	18,484,367
Sheep and lamb skins.....	9,205,376
Buffalo hides	250,367
Pig and hog skins (pieces).....	74,553
Pig and hog strips (pounds).....	1,744,785
Alligator skins	18,690
Other hides and skins.....	22,412
Total	41,288,727

HIDE MARKET DULL

THE HIDE MARKET remains very dull, with little trading being done except in heavy cows, which are demanded for automobile purposes. Tanners in other lines are keeping out of the market. Prospects for a speedy revival of business are not considered promising. *Hide and Leather* quotes the following prices on packer hides at Chicago for the week ending May 29, 1920, as compared with those of the corresponding week a year ago:

	Price per Pound (Cents)	
	1920	1919
Spready steers	38½-50	42
Heavy native steers.....	36	40
Heavy Texas steers.....	34	40
Light Texas steers.....	33	39
Colorados	32½	39
Branded cows	31	35-38
Heavy native cows	34-36	35-40
Light native cows.....	30-35	40-41
Native bulls	30	28-30
Branded bulls	27	28-29
Calfskins (country)	30-55	40-50

A CONTEST IN THE WOOL MARKET

LATE IN MAY the wool market practically disappeared. Only 30 per cent of the offering of fine wools by the British government at Boston could be sold even at declines of 10 to 20 per cent from recent prices. A few weeks previously all grades of wool from half-blood up were moving readily, the market collapse having been due wholly to financial stringency, clamor for cheaper clothing, a threatening labor situation at textile manufacturing centers, and a determination on the part of dealers to rebuke bullish sentiment among sheep-growers. It has long been an open secret that dealers intended to make common cause against the pooling system which has spread over the country recently, and it is trade tradition that the most opportune time to swat wool is during the shearing period.

John Wanamaker was primarily responsible by his initial 20-per-cent mark-down sale, which soon became epidemic. Banks notified clothing-dealers to reduce stocks, which was promptly effected by slashing prices. This had the typical effect of canceling orders for goods, the resultant slump taking effect all over the world. To make matters worse, textile workers demanded wage advances of 17½ per cent.

What will happen in the wool market during the next sixty days cannot be forecast with reasonable certainty. The Australian situation is causing concern, growers there having rejected a proposition to pool the 1920-21 clip, as British government control ceases June 30. It is possible that a plan of rationing Australian, Cape, and British government-owned wool may be devised; but the situation is somewhat chaotic at present, threatening the world's market with an excess supply of Australian wool, unless some system of control can be worked out.

The domestic wool clip might be in stronger hands. Dealers realize this, and are gunning for the grower. Money is badly needed in the West, and as rapidly as bills-of-lading can be secured growers are making drafts on eastern consignees for every dollar available as advances. The clip in the fleece-wool states must also be financed by banks at central points, as 60 per cent of it has been pooled. The ill-concealed policy of the dealer, whose position in the trade is menaced by these pools, is to tire out the members with a view to disrupting the system. The average small flock-owner is impatient to count his money—a fact which dealers have from time immemorial taken advantage of; and if the pooling system can be made to stick, the dealer's snap will disappear.

Although domestic wool stocks are not heavy, there is enough in sight to go around. On March 31 the government

report showed 564,000,000 pounds, against 543,000,000 pounds a year ago, or about a year's supply in normal times, and there is a marked tendency to curtail consumption at present. While neither the situation nor the prospect is pronouncedly bearish, no reason exists for forecasting advances in wool prices. On the contrary, the tendency will undoubtedly be toward lower levels.

WOOL STOCKS ON HAND MARCH 31

AVAILABLE WOOL SUPPLIES in the United States on March 31, 1920, comprised 309,758,000 pounds of grease, 66,948,000 pounds of scoured, and 32,592,000 pounds of pulled wool, as against 340,237,000, 57,062,000, and 25,751,000 pounds, respectively, on March 31, 1919. According to grade, the stocks of grease wool were divided as follows:

	Pounds
Fine and one-half blood.....	85,343,000
Three-eighths and one-fourth blood.....	152,636,000
Low or Lincoln.....	24,679,000
Carpet.....	32,707,000
Grade not stated.....	14,393,000
Total.....	309,758,000

Of this amount, 96,567,000 pounds, or 31.2 per cent, were of domestic, and 213,191,000 pounds, or 68.8 per cent, of foreign origin. The grease equivalent was 487,108,000 pounds.

In addition to this, the British government on March 31 held in the United States 13,958,000 pounds of wool.

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

SUBJOINED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-nine markets for the month of April, 1920, compared with April, 1919, and for the four months ending April, 1920, compared with the same period last year:

RECEIPTS

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	1,560,800	1,772,904	6,605,250	6,886,678
Hogs.....	3,064,984	3,702,167	15,864,580	17,760,861
Sheep.....	1,466,618	1,438,254	5,812,929	5,457,587

SHIPMENTS*

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	604,799	711,395	2,558,039	2,605,374
Hogs.....	1,145,942	1,139,764	5,612,377	5,390,296
Sheep.....	736,076	603,335	2,837,270	2,191,366

*Includes stockers and feeders.

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	961,168	1,034,420	3,990,520	4,170,731
Hogs.....	1,901,953	2,552,279	10,194,806	12,337,700
Sheep.....	709,145	842,174	3,236,408	3,270,741

STOCKERS AND FEEDERS

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	244,491	390,827	1,074,072	1,295,782
Hogs.....	76,081	126,810	357,605	312,292
Sheep.....	268,639	206,817	855,303	703,615

REVIEW OF EASTERN MEAT-TRADE CONDITIONS

For Week Ending May 28, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

GENERAL MARKET CONDITIONS

The dullness which characterized the fresh-meat trade during the month of May was continued throughout the last week. Excepting all grades of beef at Boston and choice veal at New York, the price trend was downward, with conditions slightly improved at the close.

BEEF

There was no improvement in the demand for cattle carrying weight and finish. With a top of \$18.50 on choice steers at Boston, that market was \$3 below Chicago on the same grade. Good steers at Boston advanced 50 cents during the week, and other grades \$1, while all grades at both New York and Philadelphia declined approximately \$1. Conditions at New York continued unsettled, with the general range of beef prices \$1 to \$2 below other eastern markets. The trend of cow-beef prices followed steers closely, with the only advance shown at Boston. A slight improvement in demand at New York for bulls of the Bologna type resulted in an advance of 50 cents, while prices on the better kinds were weak to lower. The week's trade in kosher beef was generally slow and prices steady.

LAMB

The week's offerings had a liberal percentage of spring lambs, which sold mostly at a price range of \$32 to \$35. Prices on older lambs were weak to \$2 lower than one week ago at all markets, except New York, where closing prices were steady with the opening of the week, and choice lambs firm to slightly stronger.

MUTTON

The demand for mutton was practically equal to receipts, Philadelphia being the only market at which price changes were recorded, with closing prices \$1 to \$2 lower than the first of the week, but in line with the previous Friday. Boston weakened late Friday, with some sales made at a decline of \$1.

VEAL

Continuing the healthy conditions of the previous week, New York advanced \$1 on the better grades of veal, while other markets were generally dull and weak, and prices declining after Monday. Late week-end conditions at Philadelphia showed some improvement in both demand and prices.

PORK

Under liberal receipts of pork loins, Monday's firm to higher opening prices were not maintained, and all markets declined sharply, with conditions at Philadelphia since mid-week badly demoralized. Closing prices at Boston were \$3 to \$4 lower than Monday, New York \$2 lower, and Philadelphia \$4 to \$5 lower. A liberal percentage of the offerings arrived in a stale condition. The dullness of the pork-loin markets affected other fresh pork cuts, and declines during the week ranging from \$1 to \$3 were general.

MARKET CLOSING

Boston closed steady on beef at the week's advance; slow and dull on veal, mutton, and lambs, but with prices steady. Pork closed extremely weak, with liberal movement to freezers. New York closed steady on all meats in good condition, with undertone strong on choice lambs and veal. Philadelphia closed generally unsettled, with a moderate carry-over of beef and pork, and a liberal movement of pork loins to the freezer.

LIVE-STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS

May 28, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

HOGS

	CHICAGO	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA
Top	\$15.15	\$14.70	\$14.40
Bulk of Sales.....	14.50-15.10	14.00-14.65	13.50-14.15
Heavy Wt., Med. to Ch.....	14.25-15.00	14.00-14.55	13.40-14.00
Medium Wt., Med. to Ch.....	14.75-15.15	14.15-14.70	13.75-14.25
Light Wt., Com. to Ch.....	14.65-15.15	13.85-14.65	13.90-14.40
Light Lits, Com. to Ch.....	13.75-15.00	.....	13.00-13.75
Packing Sows, Smooth	13.00-13.85	12.75-13.00	13.00-13.40
Packing Sows, Rough	12.50-12.90	12.25-12.50	12.75-13.00
Pigs, Med. to Ch.	11.75-14.25	.....	.....
Stocker Pigs, Com. to Ch.....	.....	10.00-13.00	11.00-13.00

CATTLE

BEEF STEERS:

Med. and Heavy Wt. (1,100 lbs. up)—		
Choice and Prime	\$12.60-13.75	\$11.85-13.00
Good	12.25-12.90	11.10-11.85
Medium	11.35-12.25	10.60-11.10
Common	10.25-11.35	9.40-10.60
Light Weight (1,100 lbs. down)—		
Choice and Prime	13.25-14.25	12.20-13.50
Good	12.50-13.25	11.25-12.20
Medium	11.50-12.50	10.50-11.25
Common	10.00-11.50	9.25-10.50

BUTCHER CATTLE:

Heifers, Common to Choice	7.75-13.00	7.25-12.00	7.50-12.50
Cows, Common to Choice	7.60-11.00	7.00-11.25	7.00-11.25
Bulls, Bologna and Beef...	7.50-11.00	6.50-10.00	6.50-10.50

CANNERS AND CUTTERS:

Cows and Heifers	4.75- 7.50	4.50- 7.00	4.50- 7.00
Canner Steers	6.25- 8.50	5.50- 7.25	6.00- 7.50

VEAL CALVES:

Lt. & Hdy. Wt., Med. to Ch.	11.50-14.50	10.75-13.00	11.75-13.00
Heavy Wt., Com. to Ch...	7.50-12.50	7.25-11.75	7.50-11.50

FEEDER STEERS:

Heavy Weight (1,000 lbs. up)—			
Common to Choice	9.25-11.75	9.15-11.75	9.50-11.75
Medium Weight (800-1,000 lbs.)—			
Common to Choice	9.00-11.50	8.85-11.50	9.25-11.50
Light Weight (800 lbs. down)—			
Common to Choice	8.75-11.25	8.75-11.25	9.00-11.25

STOCKER STEERS:

Common to Choice	7.75-11.00	6.90-11.25	6.75-11.00
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STOCKER COWS AND HEIFERS:

Common to Choice	7.25- 9.75	5.50- 9.40	6.00- 8.75
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STOCKER CALVES:

Good and Choice	9.00-10.50	8.25-10.75	8.50-10.50
Common and Medium	7.50- 9.00	6.00- 8.00	6.50- 8.50

SHEEP

LAMBS:

84 lbs. down, Med. to Pr...	\$15.00-17.50	\$12.75-15.00	\$15.25-16.00
85 lbs. up, Med. to Pr....	14.00-17.50	.....	14.50-15.50
Culls and Common	10.50-14.00	10.25-12.50	11.00-14.00

SPRING LAMBS:

Med., Good, and Choice...	15.00-17.75	13.50-16.40	15.25-17.00
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YEARLING WETHERS:

Medium to Prime	11.75-14.75	10.75-13.00	11.50-13.75
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WETHERS:

Medium to Prime	8.60-11.50	8.25-10.75	9.00-11.75
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EWES:

Medium to Prime	7.50-10.75	6.75- 9.50	8.50- 9.50
Culls and Common	4.00- 7.00	4.25- 6.50	3.50- 8.00

FEEDER LAMBS

.....	11.00-13.50	11.00-13.30
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GOATS:

Angora	4.85- 5.75
Brushers	5.25- 6.75

FEEDSTUFFS

PRICES FOR COTTONSEED PRODUCTS have continued firm during the month, although there is practically no demand. The government estimate of the cotton crop shows a condition much below the normal average, and it is therefore unlikely that there will be any marked decline in prices for these products this season. The export demand later in the season will be a controlling factor.

During May there was a sharp, though only temporary, bulge in hay prices, wholly due to the inability of railroads to furnish cars. At the beginning of June prices for all kinds of hay showed a downward trend. Receipts have been heavier, and the nearness of the new crop of alfalfa has undoubtedly influenced the market. Demand has been only fair. Prices at Chicago: timothy, \$34 to \$44; western prairie, \$26 to \$32; Illinois and Wisconsin feeding hay, \$22 to \$26. Prices at Kansas City: timothy, No. 1, \$37 to \$38; prairie, choice, \$24 to \$25; alfalfa, choice, \$36 to \$37; No. 1, \$34.50 to \$35.50; standard, \$29.50 to \$34; other grades relatively lower.

Receipts of wheat, corn, and oats are enlarging at all terminal markets, and would be much greater if sufficient box-cars were available. While the car situation has materially improved since the Interstate Commerce Commission took charge of the distribution of railroad equipment, it is still far from satisfactory. Cash corn and oats scored new high prices during May. At the beginning of June cash prices for wheat and corn were materially below the high point reached early in the month. There was marked improvement in the condition of wheat during May. Every indication now points to an almost normal crop. It is estimated that the corn acreage will be at least two million acres larger than last year. The crop season is from ten to twenty days late in most sections.

CHICAGO CASH PRICES JUNE 5

Corn, bu.	\$1.70-\$1.98
Oats, bu.	1.13- 1.17
Barley, bu.	1.50- 1.56

CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE QUOTATIONS ON FUTURES JUNE 5

Corn—	
July	\$1.73
September	1.60
Oats—	
July .....	.94
September .....	.78
Rye—	
July	2.01
September	1.83
Barley—	
July	1.55
September	1.41
Mess Pork—	
July	33.75
September	34.97
Lard—	
July	20.80
September	21.67
Sides—	
July	18.22
September	19.00

OPENING AND CLOSING WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED MEATS

For Week Ending Friday, May 28, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

BOSTON

BEEF	LAMB AND MUTTON
STEERS:	LAMBS:
Choice	Good
Good	Medium
Medium	Common
Common	Spring
COWS:	MUTTON:
Good	Good
Medium	Medium
Common	Common
BULLS:	
Good	
Medium	
Common	

NEW YORK

BEEF	LAMB AND MUTTON
STEERS:	LAMBS:
Good	Choice
Medium	Good
Common	Medium
COWS:	Common
Medium	Spring
Common	
BULLS:	MUTTON:
Good	Good
Medium	Medium
Common	Common

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TRADE REVIEW

CREDIT STRAIN RESTRICTING PRODUCTION

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., June 1, 1920.

THE HEAD of a Chicago financial institution making a specialty of cattle and sheep paper has had his time monopolized recently by representatives of banks in the Northwest, cattle operators, and sheep-owners—all in quest of accommodation. His answer invariably was: "We are taking care of our customers—accepting no new business;" which, being translated, means that the institution, in common with others of its kind, was carrying all the paper it could handle. The credit strain, reaching an acute stage down east in March, has spread westward until the whole country is involved. Nonessential industries were unduly favored during the period of inflation; merchants were permitted to accumulate enormous stocks of high-priced goods, which they are now endeavoring to liquidate, and stock-market speculation ran riot. It has been a veritable financial orgy, resulting, as usual, disastrously to those engaged in essential industries which do not get the benefit of excessive profits during such abnormal periods.

Undoubtedly the federal government erred in not advancing the rediscount rate earlier. Had this been done, inflation would not have run riot. The country is now experiencing the headache that is inseparable from a debauch, be it alcoholic or financial. New conditions, however, are rapidly reducing speculation both in securities and in commodities. That the legitimate industries will weather the storm need cause no doubt. The Federal Reserve Bank system is weathering a gale that might have been avoided had those in charge of the craft charted a more sagacious course. It is a period requiring care, discrimination, and judgment. Bankers and business men agree that so many disturbing influences demand unusual caution in making commitments. It is equally important that no hysteria be injected into the situation. The country has enormous resources and is in a strong financial position; what is needed at this juncture is concentration of effort to insure, in orderly manner, recession from present abnormal costs, when underlying trade factors permit.

The Chicago banker referred to recently returned from Boston, where he endeavored to interest his connections in a

number of cattle-loan renewals that a year ago would have been welcomed. In each instance he was told that the West must paddle its own canoe. Late in May Senator Kendrick announced in Washington that the administration had directed the Federal Reserve Bank management to favor live-stock paper, but no material aid is expected from that source. For the present the only possible policy is restriction of volume. Bankers are taking care of old business, declining to interest themselves in new commitments. Many of them were well loaned up on western cattle and sheep last fall; a winter of unusual severity placed them under the necessity of protecting their collateral by advancing money for feed. In some cases a good summer and fall market will be necessary to let them out whole, and even where their resources have not been strained they are not disposed to court trouble by getting beyond their depth.

"My advice to owners of grass in the West that needs restocking is to take time," said a banker. "Money may get cheaper and stock cattle come down. Giving grass an opportunity to reseed will not be an unmixed evil."

The result of this financial development will be a light movement of stock cattle to northern pastures. Late in the season it was necessary to tickle the movement to Oklahoma and Kansas grass by a severe slash in charges. Texas stock-cattle owners have been stiff in their ideas of values, refusing to make concessions until late in May, when they realized that neither Montana nor Wyoming would be in the market for many cattle. Several herds of Texas yearlings, priced at \$50 early in the season, have been offered at \$40 recently, with little doing.

Land speculation has tied up the resources of many banks. Iowa is congratulating itself on having passed the crisis of March settlements, but is not clear of the woods yet. Wholesale liquidation of Liberty bonds tells the story of financial stringency eloquently, the probability being that abnormal demand for money will not abate for many months. The situation has been aggravated by "frozen credits," due to inability to move grain, live stock, and other commodities, thereby tying up many millions of dollars. Wool loaded in the West in April had not reached Boston early in June, the present prospect being that the new clip will be tardy in getting over the rails. The moment a bill-of-lading is possible drafts on wool consignments to the last possible dollar are promptly made, indicating growers' needs.

That there will be no easy money, even for essential industries, is evident. This condition will restrict production and work to the advantage of those wholly, or in a measure, independent of the money market. The railroad situation is the key to the whole problem, and its solution, or simplification, is inseparably involved in the monetary puzzle.

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FOREIGN TRADE IN APRIL

BOTH EXPORTS AND IMPORTS for April show a considerable falling-off from the figures of the previous month, according to a report issued by the Department of Commerce. To what extent labor troubles, obstructing freight movements both in this country and abroad, are responsible for this condition it is, of course, impossible to determine, but that they have been an important factor there can be little doubt. The figures, therefore, do not accurately reflect trade tendencies:

	April, 1920	March, 1920	April, 1919
Exports	\$684,000,000	\$820,000,000	\$715,000,000
Imports	495,000,000	524,000,000	273,000,000
Excess of exports	\$189,000,000	\$296,000,000	\$442,000,000

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS IN APRIL

BELOW ARE SHOWN the exports of meat products from the United States in April, 1920, compared with April, 1919, and for the first ten months of the fiscal year beginning July, 1919, compared with the corresponding period of the previous year:

BEEF PRODUCTS

(Pounds).

Classification	April		Ten Months Ending April	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Beef, canned.....	1,606,737	2,896,729	18,530,263	96,245,474
Beef, fresh.....	17,687,306	21,628,390	136,742,768	302,120,095
Beef, pickled, etc.....	2,241,460	2,673,681	26,795,093	37,342,390
Oleo oil.....	7,704,030	7,667,229	59,901,085	44,106,257
Totals.....	29,239,533	34,866,029	241,969,209	479,814,216

PORK PRODUCTS

(Pounds)

Classification	April		Ten Months Ending April	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Bacon.....	24,356,349	141,814,255	692,523,773	998,142,408
Hams and shoulders.....	15,640,236	109,569,968	236,282,078	521,285,593
Lard.....	40,758,401	86,555,951	486,610,549	555,441,830
Neutral lard.....	2,938,177	5,572,881	16,499,840	12,677,870
Pork, pickled.....	2,784,535	2,460,454	34,043,713	26,277,786
Lard compounds.....	2,273,547	22,610,916	36,827,200	70,636,073
Totals.....	88,751,245	368,584,425	1,502,787,153	2,184,461,560

OUR FOREIGN TRADE IN LIVE STOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS

TABULATED BELOW are the total numbers of live stock and quantities of meat products exported from and imported into the United States during the month of March, and the nine months of the fiscal year ending March, 1920 and 1919, respectively:

LIVE STOCK

EXPORTS
(Numbers)

Animals	March		Nine Months Ending March	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	3,247	732	56,340	11,613
Hogs.....	3,520	1,651	18,702	9,478
Horses.....	2,087	1,310	15,081	22,499
Mules.....	999	582	7,217	10,521
Sheep.....	4,034	153	43,624	7,920

IMPORTS
(Numbers)

Animals	March		Nine Months Ending March	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	16,766	27,067	514,976	340,473
From United Kingdom.....	268	.....	857	1
From Canada.....	8,884	21,575	456,252	296,784
From Mexico.....	7,404	5,422	56,695	43,407
From other countries.....	210	70	1,175	281
Hogs.....	44	1,537	3,329	22,471
Horses.....	589	840	3,621	2,808
Sheep.....	5,247	5,146	194,809	140,130

MEAT PRODUCTS

EXPORTS
(Pounds)

Articles	March		Nine Months Ending March	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Beef products—				
Beef, canned.....	847,397	3,458,973	16,925,542	93,348,745
Beef, fresh.....	6,036,166	14,641,276	119,055,462	280,491,705
Beef, cured.....	2,290,835	3,759,394	24,575,133	34,668,709
Oleo oil.....	6,550,578	4,154,644	52,197,055	36,439,028
Oleomargarine.....	5,828,072	442,676	17,742,556	9,228,962
Tallow.....	2,082,379	1,149,494	29,349,775	3,734,798
Total beef products.....	23,635,427	27,606,457	259,845,523	457,911,947
Hog products—				
Bacon.....	75,002,410	151,086,397	668,167,424	856,328,153
Hams and shoulders.....	31,088,859	85,712,426	220,641,842	411,715,625
Lard.....	69,429,785	97,239,435	445,852,148	468,885,879
Neutral lard.....	3,571,616	3,563,052	13,561,663	7,104,989
Pork, canned.....	218,507	816,325	2,703,405	3,155,595
Pork, fresh.....	2,967,189	737,008	20,462,050	3,746,287
Pork, pickled.....	3,160,456	2,141,508	31,259,178	23,817,332
Total hog products.....	185,438,822	341,296,151	1,402,047,710	1,774,753,860
Lard compounds.....	2,802,922	5,602,408	34,553,653	48,025,157
Mutton, except canned.....	538,462	160,577	2,757,243	1,458,867
Sausage.....	3,108,669	2,008,722	15,004,435	10,426,694
Sausage casings.....	2,177,518	1,028,621	19,617,345	4,491,716
Stearin.....	2,447,552	453,342	17,982,538	5,184,593

IMPORTS
(Pounds)

Articles	March		Nine Months Ending March	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Fresh meats—				
Beef and veal.....	2,981,915	3,140,331	27,282,830	28,059,461
From Canada.....	2,185,648	2,483,882	20,978,343	19,602,291
From Argentina.....	.....	.....	345,120	2,621,124
From Uruguay.....	.....	.....	96,461	3,318
From Australia.....	310,265	.....	1,580,182	622,888
From other countries.....	486,002	656,449	4,282,724	5,209,840
Mutton and lamb.....	744,174	896,762	6,712,279	1,932,559
Pork.....	45,249	314,032	1,864,027	2,269,768
Total fresh meats.....	3,771,338	4,351,125	35,859,136	32,261,788
Prepared or preserved—				
Bacon and hams.....	47,483	859,603	527,332	3,314,004
Bologna sausage.....	3,034	2,797	84,220	10,739
All other.....	144,451	9,987,198	1,719,681	130,517,173
Sausage casings.....	404,921	1,252,996	7,774,554	4,883,245
Tallow.....	1,002,866	207,886	8,500,545	6,026,313
All other meat products.....	292,803	1,752,870	4,553,984	4,406,680

UNITED STATES AND ARGENTINA AS BEEF EXPORTERS

A TABULATED COMPARISON of beef exports of the United States and Argentina for six years past shows the following figures, in pounds:

	United States	Argentina
1914.....	85,937,000	848,471,000
1915.....	375,560,000	871,405,000
1916.....	272,686,000	1,045,071,000
1917.....	349,702,000	1,095,017,000
1918.....	700,005,000	1,352,916,000
1919.....	271,120,000	971,769,000

RESTORATION OF PRE-WAR PRODUCTION OF GRAINS

CROP PROSPECTS in Europe for 1920 are exceedingly good. Grain production will get back to a normal volume much sooner than the production of manufactured commodities. To restore grain production, only fertile soil, labor, seed, and implements are required; while to restore a pre-war production of manufactured articles requires in most instances a supply of raw material impossible for many foreign countries to secure under present conditions.

Broomhall says: "The German government has requisitioned all the 1920 crops of wheat, rye, oats, and barley."

CROP OUTLOOK AT HOME AND ABROAD

IN THE UNITED STATES the winter-wheat crop improved considerably during the early part of May, in the opinion of the *Daily Trade Bulletin*. According to this authority, the area abandoned may not be so large as officially reported. In the eastern states the outlook is quite encouraging, and good yields will be obtained. In the Ohio River valley section the general outlook is not so favorable. In the northern and middle sections of the Central West the prospects are somewhat better, while in the Southwest and West there has been a notable improvement. On the Pacific coast the abandoned acreage has been reseeded to spring wheat, and the outlook is rather good. The par of yield used for June and July will be increased about one bushel, thinks the *Bulletin*, and with the present improved outlook there may be considerable enlargement reported in the June survey.

The total area of winter wheat was on May 1 estimated by the Department of Agriculture at 34,165,000 acres (against 48,933,000 acres in 1919), the total prospective yield at 484,647,000 bushels (against 715,301,000 bushels in 1919), and the indicated average condition for the entire country at 79.1 (compared with a percentage of 100.5 on May 1, 1919, and a ten-year average of 87.1). Rye on the same date was credited with an area of 5,470,000 acres (against 6,484,000 acres in 1919), a prospective yield of 79,789,000 bushels (against 88,478,000 bushels last year), and an indicated average condition of 85.1.

Advices regarding foreign crop conditions are still somewhat limited, but it is generally believed that the outlook is quite favorable. Most countries are improving all facilities for securing good crops, and the impression prevails that liberal yields will be obtained on increased areas. In central, southern, and western Europe the weather has been quite good for fall-sown grain, but spring sowings have been retarded by excessive rains. In the United Kingdom the prospects are encouraging for all crops. Advices from France indicate that crops are in good condition, especially wheat, and the import requirements will no doubt be smaller than for several years past. In Germany the outlook in general is rather good, but it is claimed that there will be a shrinkage in acreage; imports will probably be quite extensive. No important information is available from Russia, but the unsettled condition of affairs in that country indicates that the harvest will not be very large. Reports from Italy favor fair yields of most grains. In Argentina the wheat crop will probably be considerably larger than last year. There seems to be little change in the situation in Australia—the wheat crop will be smaller than last year. The weather there continues favorable for sowing, but rains would be beneficial. Harvesting is nearly finished in India, and the reports so far are quite good. Conditions in South Africa are rather unfavorable, owing to unsettled weather.

United States Consul-General Skinner at London cables that the British Board of Trade has received from the Commission on Wheat Supplies a survey of the world's demand for

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that cereal for all countries except Russia. The commission estimates the yield for the current season from Canada, the United States, Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, Algeria, Roumania, and India at 50,250,000 tons, and the export available from all countries at 20,290,000 tons. The crop of the United States is put at 24,998,000 tons, and the export prospect at 9,000,000 tons. The import requirements of wheat and rye of the principal wheat-buying countries are given, in tons, as follows:

United Kingdom	5,700,000
France	2,800,000
Italy	2,700,000
Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary, Austria.....	1,300,000
Belgium	1,250,000
Germany	1,200,000
Netherlands	600,000
Poland	500,000
Switzerland	400,000
Denmark	350,000
Norway	300,000
Sweden	300,000
Greece	250,000
Egypt	200,000
Japan	200,000
Finland	150,000
Portugal	150,000
South Africa	100,000
Spain	25,000
Other countries	1,500,000
Total	20,200,000

ITALY PROHIBITS IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS

THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT has issued a decree prohibiting the importation during 1920 of canned meat, butter, cheese, condensed milk, and various other foodstuffs. Exports of canned meats from the United States to Italy for 1918 and 1919 were, in round numbers, 48,000,000 and 15,600,000 pounds, respectively.

FOREIGN

LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY IN ARGENTINA

A CLOSE PARALLELISM with topographic, climatic, and soil conditions in the plains region of the United States renders fully one-half of the territory of Argentina especially well adapted to the raising of live stock, we are told by David Harrell and H. P. Morgan, returned live-stock commissioners to South America, in their third contribution to "Reports on Foreign Markets for American Agricultural Products." As a consequence, practically four-fifths of the population of that progressive republic, outside of the capital of Buenos Aires, are found to be engaged in some branch or other of the live-stock industry. A potent stimulus in that direction is being received from the large European immigration, and exceptionally rapid strides have been made during the last few years.

In Argentina, as in our own western country, a beginning in live-stock production on an extensive scale was made with large herds grazing over wide areas under the supervision or ownership of single individuals. With the increase in land values, however, especially after the introduction of alfalfa, the raising of inferior native cattle (of the so-called "criollo" type) became unprofitable. Today it is the custom among Argentine cattlemen to maintain a herd of well-bred beef animals, and in most cases a pure-bred herd from which bulls are raised for stock and show purposes. A large percentage of the fat stock marketed is as well bred as similar stock in the United States, and the high quality of the meat product makes it an acceptable commodity both at home and abroad. There are eight modern packing-houses, all located in or near the capital, with a combined daily capacity of about 9,000 cattle, 25,000 sheep, and 7,000 hogs. In 1918 over 740,000 tons of meat products were exported, more than one-half of which was frozen beef.

Argentine cattle-breeders generally show a predilection for the Shorthorn type, and some of the finest Shorthorns in the world are to be found in that country, we are informed. Competition has become so keen that the highest-grade British animals are successfully shipped to South America for sale at auction, and for several years England has been sending many of her prize-winners across the Atlantic. The Argentine stock-raiser wants nothing but the best, is well versed in pedigrees, and is ready to pay whatever price is demanded to secure his choice.

In the opinion of the commissioners, "it seems entirely reasonable to expect that any quantity of excellent, well-bred Shorthorns from the United States may be disposed of in Argentina." There is a marked shortage of female stock, which has created a brisk demand for Shorthorn heifers—preferably either red or dark roan.

Although Argentina has specialized in Shorthorns, there is a well-defined interest in other breeds. A large number of high-class Herefords and Aberdeen-Angus have been imported, and, with the attention of many breeders turned toward these types, a profitable business in pure-bred animals from the United States should be developed.

The dairy industry of Argentina has hitherto placed emphasis on quantity rather than quality, and at present the market for high-class American dairy cattle is not considered promising.

Foot-and-mouth disease, of course, is rampant in Argentina, as in all other parts of South America. In fact, the country is seldom free from this plague. As previously mentioned in these columns, however, it pursues a less virulent course than in the United States, and is regarded more as an inconvenience than as an affliction. It is considered a "ten-days' illness;" mature animals seldom die from it, and the principal loss is in condition. At the famous annual live-stock show at Palermo—a suburb of Buenos Aires—an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease among the cattle on exhibition attracts little attention. The tick is not a serious problem, either; many herds are entirely free from the parasite, and very few well-improved herds are allowed to become infested.

As regards sheep, the outlook for the importation of pure-bred animals of the wool types may be considered good, in the opinion of the commissioners. Vast stretches of Patagonia offer unusually favorable conditions for this industry, and increasing attention is being given to quality production. The hog likewise is enjoying a growing popularity, and hog-raising is gaining momentum with the development of general farming. The shortness of the winter season, which is only about two months in length, the facility with which alfalfa and corn are cultivated, and the practical absence of cholera and swine plague, are important factors favoring a rapid evolution of the hog industry. Several of the Argentine packing plants are equipped to handle pork products. An important export trade in hogs from the United States may be looked for, as types and breeds which have proved profitable here should meet with success in Argentina.

Great stress is placed on the importance, in selecting animals for export to Argentina, of choosing none but the very best. Only on that basis will it be possible to compete successfully with England and other countries with long-established Argentine trade connections. With proper observance of this rule, and of the personal-equation factor so important in all business transactions with Latin America, the field should be large enough for all.

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

LONDON, May 18, 1920.

IT IS A GENERALLY ACCEPTED ASSUMPTION that the end of home meat control, which is now within sight, taking place after the end of June, will see prime-beef prices jump upwards from the control rate, which is \$2 (reckoning \$4 to the £1) per eight-pound stone. It is feared by some that there may be a sharp advance to as much as \$2.70; nevertheless everyone seems anxious for decontrol. Throughout July and August, of course, short supply of home-raised meat should keep prices on the up-grade, but after then rates should come down to a reasonable level. There will be several factors to help this. First of all, there are the huge stocks of frozen mutton still in store in this country, amounting to as much as 120,000 tons; and, in the second place, there is the probability of larger supplies of chilled beef from Argentina, as several ships formerly out of this service are rapidly being refitted.

One is conscious that all the efforts to which the government has been impelled by popular demand to work off the enormous surplus of Australasian frozen mutton now in store have been limited and bounded by the fact that the interests of the home meat-raiser are paramount in government councils. For some time past New Zealand and Australian mutton has been priced at the maximum wholesale rate of 18 cents per pound by the carcass, and the public and trade demand has been for a summary reduction of this to 12 cents per pound. The government

has only partly acceded to this request for cheaper meat, the greatest reduction being in the case of that meat which has come in cut carcasses, according to a practice evolved for freight-saving in war time—namely, by cutting across the carcass and telescoping the one half into the other. The following is the new scale of wholesale prices, by the carcass, which represents the government's supposed last word in cheap meat:

	New Zealand	Australian
	(Cents per Pound)	
Cut ewes	14	13
Uncut ewes	16	15
Cut wethers and tegs.....	16	15
Uncut wethers and tegs.....	18	18

The retail sale of imported meat is already free from control; hence the retailer is open to do as well as he can out of this meat, although, if competition does not result in his selling it cheaply, the government will be quickly on his heels. Many prosecutions have already been made under the Imported Meat Labeling Order recently put into force.

At the present time the store-cattle trade is very active, which indicates anticipations of high prices ahead. First-grade bullocks are at present realizing \$20 per 112 pounds, live weight, in Dublin, where sale is free from government control. As much as \$23 per 112 pounds, live weight, is being paid for Scotch bullocks, and a few cents less for Herefords, in more than one of our best provincial centers. The demand for milk cows has been maintained, in spite of the lower prices for milk, which now range from 64 to 72 cents per gallon. Store pigs are still generally an active sale. Ireland is continuing to forward us increased supplies of store cattle.

We now have official evidence of the fact that the high prices obtained for meat and milk during the war had a marked effect in increasing the herds in England and Wales. In the past four years the total number of cattle has averaged over 6,200,000, whereas in the four years 1910-13 the average was 5,830,000—an increase of 370,000, which, in view of the high prices of feeding-stuffs ruling during the war, must be regarded as very satisfactory. The change is even more striking if the comparison is carried back for a number of years.

In no year since these returns were first collected, in 1867, has the number either of cows and heifers or of other cattle reached the figures recorded in the past four years. On the other hand, it must be admitted that there has been since 1916 a progressive decline in the number of cattle under one year, which suggests that a larger proportion of young cattle have of late been killed. The decrease has been counterbalanced by an extension in the numbers of the older cattle.

The position in regard to sheep is the exact reverse of that of cattle, as during the past four years the flocks of the country have been reduced by about 2,800,000, or nearly 16 per cent. The number of ewes kept for breeding was returned in 1919 at 5,764,000, or 11 per cent less than in 1918, and the number of lambs at 5,792,000, or 15 per cent less than the year before. On the other hand, the number of other sheep one year old and above was increased by some 410,000.

The number of pigs recorded in 1918 was the lowest on record—viz., 1,697,000, which was over one million less than the number recorded in some earlier years. There was some improvement in 1919, the number of pigs on agricultural holdings on June 4 of last year being about 100,000 greater than in 1918.

In a lecture delivered recently on the subject of "Our National Food Supply: Limits of Self-Support," Sir Daniel Hall said that before the war a farmer growing an acre of wheat would get about \$28 for the produce, out of which he had to pay about \$6 for manual and \$3 for horse labor. At the present time that \$6 had become \$20, and the \$3, \$6, whereas the \$28 had only become about \$56. Even if his rent had not risen, the margin of profit could be no higher than it was before, whereas

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the risks were, of course, very much greater. By comparison, the grass land was a much more tempting proposition. On the grass land the labor amounted to only 10 per cent of the value of the produce, instead of 30 per cent—or, rather, 45 per cent, including the horses—as it did on the arable land.

NOTES FROM GREAT BRITAIN

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE, thought to be under control, has again broken out—this time in Kent and Norfolk.

"In a world of rampant and rising prices, one trade, and one trade alone—the food trade—has been deprived of anything like equal opportunities to raise prices or to profiteer," declares Mr. McCurdy, British Food Controller.

Importers of colonial meat are complaining that, while the British consumer is eating lamb which has been in cold storage for two years, the government is selling fresh-killed New Zealand lamb to the United States at a lower price than it is sold for in England.

Of an estimated total consumption of bacon and hams amounting to 447,000 tons last year in the United Kingdom, 81 per cent was imported and only 19 per cent was produced at home.

"A meat supply for Great Britain sufficient not only for her own needs, but with a considerable margin for exportation, is being planned," says the London *Daily Graphic*. "The basis of the scheme is the stoppage of indiscriminate slaughter. Taking pigs first, no females would be slaughtered for a year. Control would then be transferred to sheep for a year, and then the turn of cattle would come, to be followed after the expiration of the twelve months by the reimposition of the pigs' 'close' season. This would continue in an endless chain. Millions of extra animals would be preserved in this way,

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We have three Range Bulls for sale by
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Herd sired by
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heifers for sale, singly or in
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SARATOGA
WYOMING

the preservation of the females of one year of age making a big supply certain."

[This novel scheme might be all right for consumers on the "tight little isle" if England were able to produce sufficient grass and animal feeds to maintain the "millions of extra animals" which they thus intend to conserve. However, we do not believe that other surplus live-stock countries need be alarmed about the possibilities of England raising sufficient meat-food animals for her own needs and with a margin for export. If the proposed plan is adopted, English butchers will face a marked shortage in the slaughter supply of that class of native stock on which the "close" restrictions are imposed. Placing an embargo on the slaughter of any particular class of meat-food animals is a dangerous experiment of doubtful expediency.—Ed.]

At the request of the Board of Trade, the Food Controller has revoked, as from April 26, the orders fixing the retail prices of imported mutton. The orders still remain in force as regards home-killed and imported beef, lamb, and veal, home-killed mutton, and imported pork. The maximum wholesale prices of imported mutton remain in force. The labeling of all imported meat is to continue.

The Irish Labor party has withdrawn its embargo on the export of pigs and bacon. It has been agreed that 30 per cent of existing stocks should be kept for home consumption at control prices, in order that the future demands of the Irish retail trade might be satisfied, and that only 17½ per cent of the total quantity of live pigs should be exported.

Ireland reports a record lamb crop.

NOTES FROM FRANCE

THE FRENCH WHEAT OUTLOOK is unusually favorable. A harvest of 274,000,000 bushels is expected. This is almost equal to domestic requirements, so that it will be necessary to import only about one-fourth of the quantity imported before the war.

Rapid progress is being made toward the restoration of the devastated regions of the Somme district. Of a total of 400,000 acres reduced to a completely useless state, nearly one-half have been put back into cultivation and are expected this year to yield a cereal crop of over 3,000,000 bushels. More than 27,000,000 of the 60,000,000 square yards of trenches and shell-holes have been filled in, and 11,000,000 square yards of barbed-wire entanglements have been removed. In the 205 towns and villages demolished one-fourth of the debris has been cleared away, and over 8,000 of the 20,000 damaged houses have been made habitable. In addition, 10,000 huts have been erected. Of the 1,200 industrial plants wholly or partly destroyed, 230 are again in full operation and 486 in partial operation. Railroads and canals have been repaired, and hundreds of miles of highways resurfaced. Along the latter new fruit trees have been planted.

Delivery of German live stock to France has begun. The first trainload of horses and cattle from Westphalia arrived in Lille the latter part of April. The animals were reported to be in poor condition.

GERMANY IMPORTING LESS MEAT

UNFAVORABLE EXCHANGE RATES are restricting meat imports into Germany, says Consul Simpich, on duty with the American commission at Berlin. The small quantity of pork that can be imported is to be used mainly for distribution among those miners who are working overtime. It will not be possible to furnish German cities with bacon during the next few months. Pork itself, with few exceptions, has not been sold officially in butcher shops for the last five years. The distribution of a limited quantity of pork to the tuberculosis hospitals will be kept up. The import of foreign frozen meat, corned beef, and other tinned meats, however, will be continued as heretofore; that is, in so far as payments can be met.

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For sale now: 10 Heifers coming 2 years old
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Anxiety cows of extreme quality should produce cattle
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BRITISH VS. GERMAN AGRICULTURE

A PAMPHLET issued by the English Board of Agriculture, under the title "Recent Development of German Agriculture," affords interesting glimpses of agricultural methods and results in the two countries, according to the *North British Agriculturist*. The investigation is limited to cultivated land, by which is meant both arable and grass land, but excluding rough pastures in Germany. It is estimated that from each farm of 100 acres of cultivated land the comparative yield (in tons) is as follows:

Produce	Britain	Germany
Meat	4	4½
Grain	15	35
Potatoes	11	55
Milk	17	28

"The result of which," in the language of the *Agriculturist*, "is that it is further estimated that the produce of 100 acres of cultivated land feeds in Britain about 50 people and in Germany 75, so that one is not surprised to be told that we import about 60 per cent of our foodstuffs, as against the Germans' 10 per cent.

"Within the last thirty-five years the production of cereals [in Germany] has exactly doubled. When we look, not at totals of production, but at productivity of the soil, we find that within the same period of time the average yield per acre has nearly doubled in both cereals and roots. As to details, sheep are a comparatively poor total, whereas pigs bulk highly. The German farmer produces twenty-seven times as much pork as mutton. This, and the enormous quantity of potatoes grown, are explained by the fact that the Germans live mainly, and are well nourished, on pork and potatoes."

CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK NOTES

BY H. S. ARKELL

Dominion Live-Stock Commissioner

PRESENT CONDITIONS indicate a short hay crop throughout Canada, excepting in northern Alberta and northern Saskatchewan. Information received, however, indicates that, unless an unusually poor growing season is experienced, with lack of moisture in the eastern provinces and lack of heat in the western provinces, there should be a sufficient supply of summer feed and pasturage to meet grazing requirements, and a reasonable amount of coarse grains and roughage for next winter's stock-feeding operations.

To offset the anticipated short hay crop, there will be considerably more corn sown in Ontario this spring, unless in the near future rains are experienced to help hay and pasture lands. In the maritime provinces and in western Canada a good deal of attention will, under any circumstances, be given to the growing of soiling crops and crops for ensilaging. The soils of the western provinces have the heaviest moisture content in some years, and, with the provision of warmer weather, the prospect for crops of all kinds is excellent.

As a result of the backward condition of pastures, it is expected that the run of grass-finished cattle will not come out until about a month later than usual. Cattle are going onto the grass in very thin condition, and pastures are short and lack bottom. The situation is generally hopeful, especially considering the precautions that are being taken to preclude a recurrence of feeders' experiences in the way of feed shortage, and consequent high feed cost.

Buffalo Grass SHORTHORN HERD

RAISED OUT THIRTY-FIVE YEARS

Sired by the best Bulls I could buy and breed
Twenty-five Young Bulls that will sire
Market Toppers and Champions

SAMUEL BALL, Wray, Colorado

During the period January 1 to May 20 of the present year exports of live animals from Canada to the United States amounted to 24,009 cattle, 4,535 sheep and lambs, and no hogs, as compared with 65,348 cattle, 7,878 sheep and lambs, and 980 hogs for the same period in 1919. This falling-off of 63 per cent in exports of cattle and of 42 per cent in the case of sheep and lambs has been due principally to exceptionally high costs, and to strike troubles, tying up transportation. Canadian cattle-feeders sustained tremendous losses during the past winter, and will be reluctant to engage in the cattle-feeding business next season on a normal volume.

CANADA AS THE WORLD'S MEAT PURVEYOR

TO A RECENT NUMBER of the *Outlook* a correspondent contributes the following forecast of Canada's future as a meat-producing country:

"Northward the course of empire is now taking its way, instead of westward, and the centers of civilization, which since the beginning of historic times have been moving north from the Equator, have not yet reached their limit, and may go far north of New York or London.

"Greatness for Canada is forecast mainly because it is to become the greatest cattle-raising land in the world, through the supplanting of the steer and cow by the musk-ox as a beef animal. The great possibilities of the musk-ox are as yet generally unknown. The name of 'Barren Lands' for the ten million acres of fine grazing land in northern Canada is as much of a misnomer as was calling Kansas, Nebraska, and Utah the 'Great American Desert.'

"In these northern Canadian lands the meat problem of the world can be solved. 'Musk-ox,' too, is a misnomer for an animal which is in reality a gigantic sheep, the meat of which tastes the same as beef, and which has a wool coat two and a half times as thick as that of the sheep.

"Reindeer meat, already being introduced by the government in the West, and now in New York markets, is not to be compared with that of the musk-ox. The musk-ox can be grown all over the north. It needs no barns and no feed. It protects itself against the wolves, and it multiplies rapidly. It feeds on grass, while reindeer feed on the lichen which grows beneath the grass; the two animals can be pastured on the same land. Only in milk-giving capacity is it inferior to cattle."

All of which is very important, if true. There is, however, no meat problem in the world which requires solution through the musk-ox or the reindeer. If all the available supply of musk-oxen and reindeer were slaughtered in one year, it would not add to the meat supply of the world more than a small fraction of one per cent. The possibilities of the enlargement of that industry are mostly visionary. The great problem in the live-stock industry today is to keep the producers and feeders of live stock in the business. The world will have all the meat-food products it needs if the producer is accorded a fair return for his work.

CANADA'S FUR TRADE

FOR NEARLY FOUR HUNDRED YEARS Canada has been one of the largest and most productive fields of the fur trade. It is impossible to estimate the number or value of the costly pelts taken from the traps of the Dominion during that period. For the fiscal year 1918-19 furs and skins to the value of \$13,737,621 were exported from Canada. Yet until quite recently the fur trade was hardly organized on a business basis. Beyond the trapping and taking of the furs, the various phases of the industry passed out of Canadian hands. Traders bought from the trappers, and the raw materials went to the large foreign markets. There has, however, gradually dawned a realization of the money lost in this way. In the future Canada will market her own furs, and Montreal will become one of the most important fur markets of the globe.

Artificial breeding of fur-bearing animals is now an established industry in Canada. On Prince Edward Island fox ranches have been in operation for more than thirty years.

ROUND THE RANGE

RENT OF KANSAS PASTURES ON LOWER LEVEL

Prices for pasture in Kansas this season have slumped an average of \$5 per head for the season, compared with the record level of 1919, and renters have found it easier to close contracts, according to *Bradstreet's*. The extreme range for pasture rental this season has been from \$8 to \$15, as compared with \$10 to \$20 last year. Where \$13 to \$18 took most of the pasture in 1919, \$12 to \$13.50 has secured the bulk of the better pasture this season. Practically all of the desirable pasture is now under lease, although some of the cheap land is still available, with no takers.

According to a Santa Fe official, pasture for 7,500 head in Butler County was still available in the second week in May. The consensus of opinion was that the total movement of cattle into the pasture country this year will fall short 20 to 25 per cent of a year ago.

Hides, Furs Pelts, Wool

Forty-two years of square dealing have earned for me the confidence of dealers and shippers in the Western territory, which is proven by the fact that I handle more hides direct from the Farmer and Ranchman than any concern in the West.

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Write or wire for Quotations and Shipping Tags.

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COST OF GROWING CORN IN IOWA

Eighty-nine cents a bushel was the cost of growing corn in Iowa last year, according to investigations conducted by the agricultural college of that state. A yield of forty bushels and the following cost items, per acre, were used as a basis for the calculation:

Land	\$12.00
Seed .....	.50
Fertilizer	3.00
Man labor (19 hours at 40 cents) ...	7.60
Horse labor (48 hours at 20 cents) ..	9.60
Use of equipment	2.40
Storage and insurance .....	.50
	\$35.60

INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES

Data collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that retail prices of staple articles of food in fifty-one leading cities during 1919 increased by the following percentages: potatoes, 134; sugar, 76; cabbage, 64; raisins, 61; onions, 57; rice and prunes, 37 each; coffee, 31; rolled oats, 24; flour, 18, salmon and oranges, 17 each; eggs, 15; bread, 14; butter and bananas, 13 each; fresh milk, 12; hens and oleomargarine, 11 each; corn meal, 10; cheese, 6; lamb and macaroni, 5 each; tea, 4; nut margarine, 2; pork chops, 1.

Articles which decreased in price during the year were: plate beef, 18; chuck roast, 12; bacon and lard, 9 each; canned tomatoes, 8; baked beans, 7; round steak and navy beans, 5 each; rib roast and canned corn, 4 each; sirloin steak, 2; evaporated milk, 1; ham, 0.5.

The greatest increase in one city during this period was in Chicago.

TOWN DWELLERS OUTNUMBER FARMERS

For the first time in the history of the United States, our agricultural population constitutes less than one-half of the total population of the country. Definite data from the recent enumeration are not yet available, but the Census Bureau estimates, on the basis of preliminary returns, that only about 35 per cent of our people will now classify as rural, as against 65 per cent living in cities. In 1910 the percentages were 53.7 rural and 46.3 urban, inhabitants, and forty years ago 70 per cent of Americans lived in the country.

FARMERS LIVE LONGER

This on the authority of the Bureau of Labor, which has been compiling statistics on the subject. Undoubtedly they do. An open-air life, coupled with fairly regular hours, sufficient food and sleep, and lack of opportunities for some of the more wasteful forms of diversion, must needs conduce to longevity. The farmer reaps the reward of his virtue, even if the virtue be only that of necessity. Counterbalancing factors will be found in faulty food combinations, frequent exposure to cold and wet, and long spells of strenuous physical exertion. Rheumatism is distinctly a farmers' ailment.

The classes that suffer from the farmer's disadvantages without enjoying his advantages naturally fare worse in the final reckoning. It is but logical that the miner, the mill or factory worker, and those other men of brawn who in town or country do the roughest of our menial labor under the least sanitary conditions, should be expected to exhibit a shorter life-span. Equally evident is it that shop clerks and office assistants, lacking the corrective of open-air exercise, and seeking their necessary stimulus in less wholesome ways, must show the earlier decay that is the penalty of their, too often, ill-chosen calling.

But when it is held that the occupation of the farmer is the most healthful, as

Wm. R. Smith J. Clark Eastes
John Smith

"Nothing But SHEEP"

Sheep Bought and Sold
on Commission Only

WE AIM AT

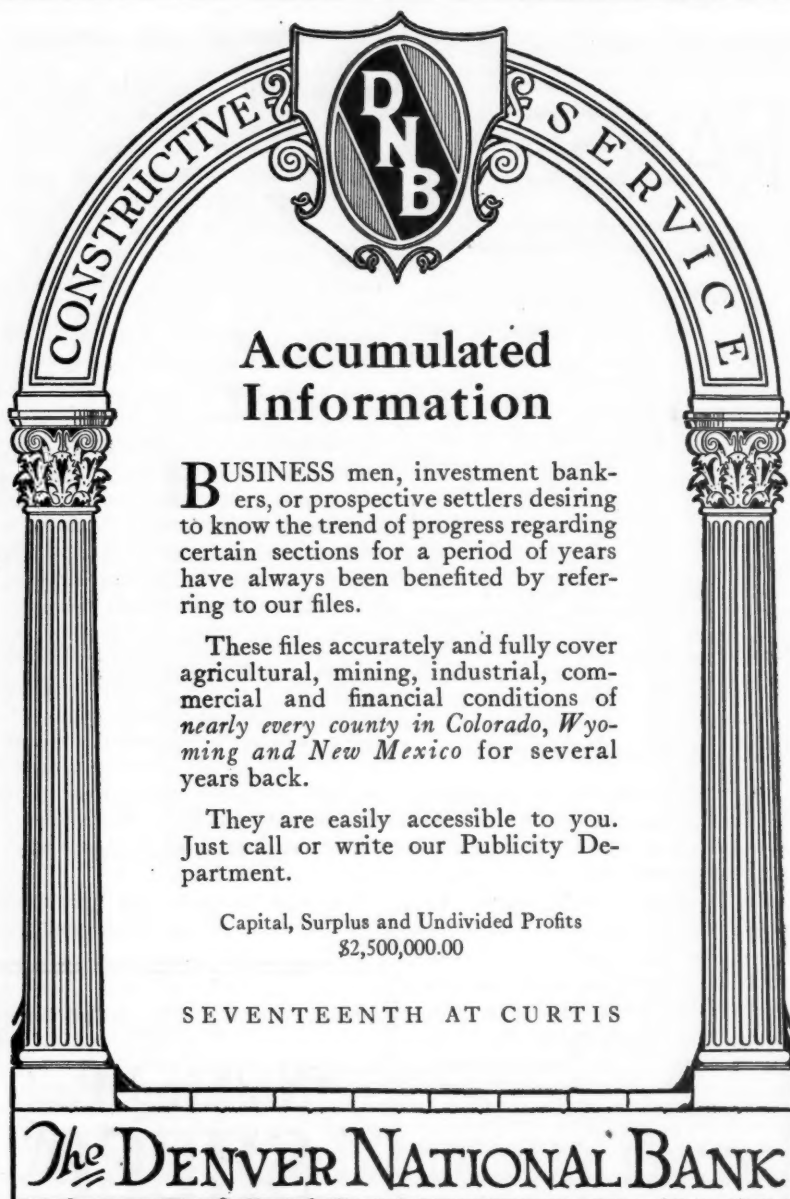
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MARKET INFORMATION
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**Wm. R. Smith
& Son**

UNION STOCK YARDS
OMAHA and CHICAGO



The advertisement is framed by a large archway. The archway is inscribed with the words "CONSTRUCTIVE" on the left and "SERVICE" on the right. At the top center of the arch is a shield-shaped logo containing the letters "DNB". Inside the arch, the text "Accumulated Information" is prominently displayed. Below this, a paragraph of text describes the bank's services to business men, investment bankers, and prospective settlers. Further down, another paragraph states that the files accurately and fully cover agricultural, mining, industrial, commercial, and financial conditions of nearly every county in Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico for several years back. This is followed by a statement that the files are easily accessible and can be reached by calling or writing the Publicity Department. Below this, the bank's capital, surplus, and undivided profits are listed as \$2,500,000.00. The address "SEVENTEENTH AT CURTIS" is given. At the bottom of the archway, the bank's name "The DENVER NATIONAL BANK" is written in a stylized font.

Accumulated Information

BUSINESS men, investment bankers, or prospective settlers desiring to know the trend of progress regarding certain sections for a period of years have always been benefited by referring to our files.

These files accurately and fully cover agricultural, mining, industrial, commercial and financial conditions of *nearly every county in Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico* for several years back.

They are easily accessible to you. Just call or write our Publicity Department.

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits
\$2,500,000.00

SEVENTEENTH AT CURTIS

The DENVER NATIONAL BANK

well as the safest, of all, we must take exception. Statistics galore have been published proving that brain workers, so called, lead all other classes in longevity. Given an assured and modestly sufficient income, with a reasonable amount of leisure and a wife who knows how to cook, the teacher, the preacher, the professional man, will outlive nine-tenths of his fellows. And we will venture a wager that, could data be gathered from all over the world, the country parson, combining all imaginable advantages, would lead the whole procession.

As for figures, the bureau submits these extremes: Farmers reach an average age of 58.5 years; bookkeepers, of 36.5.

BEAVERS TO BE MOVED

Farmers in the Walla Walla Valley of Washington are complaining of the damage done by beavers, which are very

numerous in that section of the state and are fast becoming a nuisance. Fruit trees are being girdled, or cut down and dragged to the streams by the industrious little engineers; irrigation ditches are being ruined; canals are dammed and the flow of water stopped. As the beaver is protected by statute, both federal and state, the farmers have no remedy against his depredations. This summer experiments will be conducted by the Biological Survey which may help solve the problem. The animals will be caught alive, if possible (they are very difficult to trap), and transferred to the national-forest reserves, where they can do no harm. If this plan proves successful, it will be adopted in other states where the beaver has become a menace. If it fails, legislative permission will be sought for exterminating the rodent.

We hope that this drastic step may not become necessary.

FARMERS CONSTRUCT PLATFORM PLANKS

The National Board of Farm Organizations, meeting in Chicago recently, adopted the following principles, with the avowed intention of making a strong effort to have them incorporated in the platforms of both political parties:

1. Legalization of collective bargaining among farmers.
2. Conservation of forests.
3. Reduction of cost of distribution of farm products.
4. Action toward a solution of the tenancy problem.
5. Provision for personal-credit societies.

Representatives from Canada were present and told of the success of co-operative enterprises among the farmers of that country.

MANY IDLE FARMS IN MICHIGAN

A recent survey undertaken by the Michigan Farm Bureau in connection with the Bureau of Crop Estimates indicates that there are 11,537 idle farms and 30,307 vacant farm houses in Michigan. As was to be expected, the areas surrounding the larger industrial centers show the highest percentage of abandoned farm property. In the central part of the state the idle farms and unoccupied houses average less than 100 to the county; while, for instance, Kent County, in which Grand Rapids is located, has 471 vacant country homes, and Oakland County, containing Pontiac, has no fewer than 660.

Similar conditions exist throughout the principal agricultural sections of the country, lending sinister emphasis to the city-ward drift of our rural population, of which the census returns are just now furnishing daily evidence.

GUAM JOINING IN BETTER-SIRES CAMPAIGN

The "Better Sires—Better Stock" movement has extended across the Pacific to our island possessions. The agent of agricultural extension in Guam has written the Department of Agriculture expressing keen interest in this movement, and ask-

Stocks, Bonds

We are prepared to quote prices on any security traded in anywhere. If it is on the market we can get you a quotation either to buy or sell.

Our Statistical Department will take pleasure in answering your inquiries regarding any securities. We specialize in **High-Class Texas Oils.**

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Distributor for Flexo, Aero and McKinnon
Cores. Tinned thruout and guaranteed
the best at a moderate price.

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"Rugged—Traffic—Cord"

Federal Tires

**FEDERAL RUBBER TIRE
WORKS CO.**

1614 BROADWAY, DENVER

21 years in the Tire business in Denver



TenEyck MOTOR CO.

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We are the people to
handle your next
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**Dodge, Hudson, Paige
Bulk Service**

of which we are specialists
We repair all makes of autos and
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815 BROADWAY

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ing that literature be sent him. Officials of the Bureau of Animal Industry point out that there are peculiar opportunities for live-stock breeders on a small island to keep stock breeds pure and of superior quality. If all live-stock men in Guam will unite in a campaign of this sort, they can rapidly build up distinctive breeds, which eventually may gain fame equal to that enjoyed by the types originating on the islands of Guernsey and Jersey in the British Channel.

AN AUTOMOBILE FOR EVERY FOUR-TEEN INHABITANTS

In 1919, 7,523,664 motor cars and trucks were registered in the United States, representing a gain of 1,434,909, or 23 per cent, over the previous year. Nearly \$65,000,000 in fees was paid by automobile-owners. The states reporting the largest number of cars were as follows:

New York	555,789
Ohio	500,924
California	493,463
Pennsylvania	490,337
Illinois	478,438
Iowa	363,000
Michigan	296,378
Massachusetts	288,059
Texas	263,392
Minnesota	259,743
Wisconsin	236,974
Missouri	229,577
Kansas	228,301

AMERICAN ROYAL'S NEW HOME

Plans for the permanent home of the American Royal Live-Stock Show at Kansas City, Mo., are now assuming definite form. The main building will be 870 by 270 feet, with stock barns of two stories and an arena considerably higher. The total cost of the structures is estimated at \$750,000, of which the Kansas City

Stock Yards Company will defray all but \$200,000. Of the remainder, the Hereford and Shorthorn associations are to contribute \$20,000 each, the Aberdeen-Angus associations \$10,000, while \$150,000 will be raised by the local Association of Commerce.

BIGGEST FREEZER IN WORLD

The biggest freezer in the world, with a capacity of 50,000,000 pounds, has just been completed and is now in operation at the Chicago plant of Armour & Co. It has been erected for the dual purpose of freezing meat products, particularly for export, and of storing products during the period of heavy production, to insure a supply at all times. The building is ten stories high, and was erected at a cost of \$2,000,000.

SHORTHORN BREEDERS OFFER PRIZES

For the year 1920 the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association has appropriated \$150,000 for prizes of all classes. This amount is approximately 50 per cent greater than that appropriated for 1919. As a large proportion of it is appropriated on the basis of \$1 paid by the Shorthorn association and \$2 by the fair or show association, and a large percentage on a fifty-fifty basis, the total amount offered for Shorthorn prizes throughout the United States will probably reach over \$300,000 for the current year.

RABBIT DRIVES IN WASHINGTON

Jack rabbits to the number of 35,000 have sacrificed their lives in the drives recently undertaken in eastern Washington under the supervision of the Biological Survey. The demand for the meat

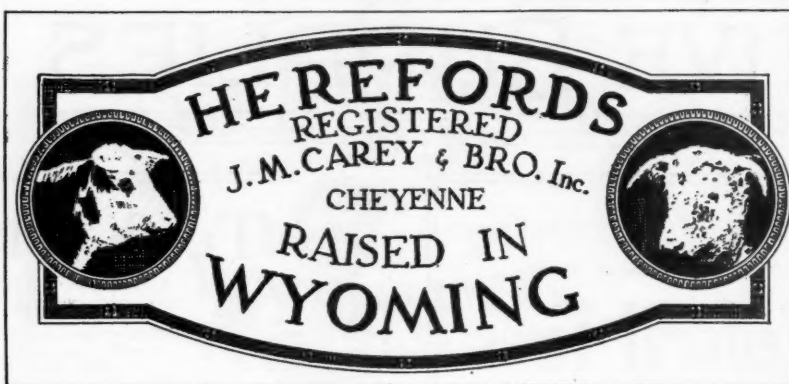
in the larger cities of the Northwest proved to be good. White-tailed rabbits brought \$2.50 a dozen, and the black-tailed variety sold for about \$2. Preference was shown for those which had been shot rather than harried and clubbed. The carcasses, to be salable, should be drawn as soon as possible after they are cooled, it is pointed out. An extension of the campaign is planned.

TUBERCULOUS CATTLE TO BE BRANDED

Veterinarians in the State of New York are now required to brand all cattle found by them to be affected with tuberculosis. The brand is the letter "T," placed on the left jaw. Officials of the Department of Agriculture consider this an important step toward the eradication of tuberculosis, and recommend adoption of the plan by other states. Reactors to the tuberculin test are in this way permanently marked, and, where they are not slaughtered, the possibility of their being disposed of is greatly lessened.

A BOLSHEVIST STUD FARM

In the *Live Stock Journal* of London a correspondent relates the observations of an English horse-trainer recently escaped from Russia: "The Bolsheviks went to all the stud farms and divided the stock among themselves. The best stallion in Russia, imported just before the war at enormous expense, was given to a peasant, who took the horse off to his village in the interior to draw his cart for a few days and then be slaughtered for food. The Bolsheviks then started an 'improved' stud farm under nationalist management. They made it up of six stallions and one mare."



Beau Belmont by Beau President
out of Belle 6th (a full sister of Beau Brummel).

Gano by Domino
out of Gentle Annie — by Kansas City.

Gleeful Domino by Domino
out of Gleeful — by Banner Bearer.

Bright Gerald by Bright Donald
out of Garfist 2d — by Beau Modest.

ALL OF THE ABOVE BRED BY GUDGELL AND SIMPSON BULLS

Perfection Wilton by Perfection
out of Wilton's Choice — by Anxiety Wilton.

Prime Lad 6th by Prime Lad 9th
out of Lovely Mary — by Onward.

Prime Lad 47th by Prime Lad
out of Clementine 2d — by Onward.

Top Notch by Majestic 24th
out of Autumn Queen — by Armour Anxiety.

Cattle are raised in the open. All herd bulls have been raised without the aid of nurse cows, with the idea of producing cows with sufficient milk to raise their own calves.

Bright Laddie by Domino
out of Bright Lass 15th — by Militant.

Silver Dandy by Beau Dandy
out of Silvery — by Beau Picture.

Beau Gaspard by Beau President
out of Gossamer 6th — by Dandy Rex.

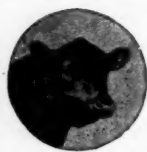
Graduate 2d by Beau Picture
out of Grates 9th — by Domino.

Vain Lad by Beau Premier
out of Verity Lass 2d — by Kansas City, Jr.

Imperial Dare by Paragon 12th
out of Lady Mary 1st — by Lord Brummel.

Elbert by Majestic 24th
out of Macbeth Twin — by Majestic.

Longevity of ABERDEEN-ANGUS



Old Granny lived to be 36 years old and produced 25 calves. There are many cows "old enough to vote" that are producing Aberdeen-Angus calves today. A 14-year-old registered Aberdeen-Angus cow recently sold for \$4,000 with calf at side. Aberdeen-Angus excel at longevity and ability to reproduce many times. Write for "History of Aberdeen-Angus."

AMERICAN ABERDEEN-ANGUS
BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION
817 P Exchange Ave., Chicago

THE NOXIOUS STABLE-FLY

One of the worst insect enemies of our domestic animals is the stable-fly. Bearing a striking resemblance to the house-fly, he adds to the filth and disease-carrying qualities of the latter a vicious weapon in the shape of a lance of extraordinary penetrating power. With this, all through the summer months, he strives to make life unbearable for every beast within his circuit. Mules, horses, cattle, hogs, dogs, cats, sheep, and goats, in the order named, become his helpless victims. Man he attacks comparatively

rarely, though he is accused of carrying spinal meningitis from one human being to another. From diseased to healthy animals he will convey the germs of swamp fever and anthrax.

Protection against this brute has been sought through the application of various ointments, by placing traps in his pathway, by digging petroleum-smeared trenches in the soil as a refuge for exposed animals, and by the costly and troublesome device of providing burlap blankets for the stock. He does not like darkness or cold, and a darkened stable,

A.J. Knollin

POCATELLO, IDAHO Box 478

Breeder of **Pure-Bred SHEEP**

Rambouillets Cotswolds
Lincolns Shropshires
Hampshires Oxford

Romneys
Belgian Horses—Milking Shorthorns

Serviceable rams of above breeds and a few Shropshire ewes for sale at reasonable prices. Also a few young Belgian stallions bred from imported stock, and a few bulls, milking Shorthorn strain.
Correspondence solicited.

with the air freely circulating, affords some measure of relief. But all these give only partial or temporary protection. The best remedy lies in prevention.

The eggs of the stable-fly are laid in loose, warm straw-heaps and piles of stable refuse. A plague of flies always starts from these sources, and the control of the pest is best managed by scattering the straw early in the spring, before the beginning of warm weather, and plowing it under, or by burning it when the former method cannot be applied.

Stable refuse should be scattered at regular intervals of one week or less throughout the season, starting with early spring. In this way the first generation of the flies is destroyed and a plague averted.

Farmers' Bulletin 1097 gives in detail the life-history of the stable-fly, methods for its control, and some facts concerning the amount of damage done by it.

DISEASE-PROOF CEREALS

Botanists at Cambridge University, England, claim that it is now possible to breed disease-proof plants. A special body of investigators who have been devoting themselves to the practical testing of the Mendelian heredity law are engaged in immunizing wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, and roots, the results of which will be shown during the summer to a distinguished assembly of medical men. The plant doctors have already succeeded in breeding a new wheat, known as "yeoman," which has yielded 96 bushels to the acre—three times an ordinary crop.

MIGRATORY-BIRD LAW VALID

A recent decision of the Supreme Court declares constitutional the Migratory-Bird Treaty between the United States and Canada, and the act passed by Congress to make it effective. The object of this "covenant," as Mr. Wilson would say, is to protect game and insectivorous birds inhabiting the two countries during their travels to and from their breeding-grounds. Hitherto such legislation—inadequate, confused, and ill enforced—has been left to the individual states. In future, where state and federal laws conflict, the latter supersedes the former.

MONTANA

Herefords

FOR SALE

30 Head Registered BULLS

Coming Two-Year-Old, Native-Raised.
Beau Brummel and Beau Perfection
Breeding. Good size. Good color

W. H. DONALD
Melville, Montana

FARMS AND RANCHES

Cattle Ranch for Sale

Located in the northeastern part of Arizona; 9,088 acres of deeded land, 7,589 acres of leased land; 400 head of range cattle one year and over; expect to brand between 125 and 150 calves this season; 12 saddle and work horses; 2 good wells with windmills and engines located in center of range; 20 miles of barbed-wire fence; 5-room house; 14 miles to town of St. Johns, and 35 miles to Santa Fe Railroad.

For further information write

C. H. ODELL & SON
ST. JOHNS, ARIZONA

If you don't see what you want on this page write these advertisers—they have many more farm and ranch bargains. They may have just what you want

BIGGEST, BEST Stock Ranch

Bargains in the United States

Two Cattle Ranches One a magnificent subdivision property; 12,000 acres in central Utah; about 4,000 acres cultivated, partly in crop; fenced; two sets ranch buildings, wells, springs; controls 60,000 acres free range, best in state; bargain at \$175,000, easiest terms. Another ranch, 34,000 acres in southwestern Wyoming; 16 miles along railroad; stations on property; gravity water for 40,000 acres; 20 miles of reservoirs in; other improvements; all splendid farm land; controls 70,000 acres free range adjoining; a wonderful cattle ranch, more so subdivision proposition; cannot be beaten at \$550,000; easiest terms.

H. STEIN 157 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, Cal.

This decision, hailed with delight by every nature-lover, should go a long way toward preserving our wild bird life. The law in this country will be administered by the Biological Survey.

HUNTING HEADS IN HOLLAND

Scalping cabinet ministers is a sport not confined to America. In a letter from Holland to a London contemporary we run across this delightfully ingenuous paragraph:

"Our former Minister of Trade knew nothing whatever of trade. The simplest butcher and cattle-dealer felt instinctively that he did not understand his business. Evidently he had never studied Adam Smith's 'The Wealth of Nations.' His export policy was simply gold, more gold, until the Bank of the Netherlands of Amsterdam was stuffed with gold, and cattle and meat very scarce. In July, 1918, the general elections proved that we were sick of that foolish man, and he had to

Richard Peete

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

511 Ernest & Cranmer Building
Denver, Colo.
Handles Live-Stock Claims

go. All the butchers and cattle-dealers detested him and his regime. Only a few profiteering exporters, the Dutch Big Five—I will not mention names—thought that he was a wise man."

TRICKING THE WARY WOLF

How wolves are tricked in Alaska, where the animals are a serious plague, is thus related in the *Philadelphia Public Ledger*:

"Most ingenious of all wolf traps is one of extreme simplicity used by the Eskimo. It consists merely of an iron spearhead—or a suitably shaped blade of chipped flint will serve—which is set point upward in the ice, so as to be frozen securely in position. A chunk of seal blubber is wrapped about the spearhead or flint blade and tied fast. Alaskan wolves are marvelously keen of scent. It does not take them long to find the attractive bait, about which a snarling pack of them will gather, licking and chewing at the blubber. Presently one and another of them cut their tongues on the sharp edges of the flint or iron. Blood runs. They do not know it is their own blood, and the taste of it drives them crazy. Presently they begin to attack each other, the weaker being overcome by the stronger. Blood flows in streams over the ice, and soon all are killed or badly wounded. The pack is nearly destroyed, only a few, perhaps, being able to limp away and nurse their hurts."

THE ENEMY WITHIN HIMSELF

An internal parasite to destroy the grasshopper by "boring from within" is being developed at the University of Saskatchewan, it is announced. While ordi-

nary methods must be used to combat the grasshopper menace to growing crops this year, if hopes are realized the spread of the parasite will be sufficient next year to prevent any further grasshopper plague.

The Dyaks of Borneo eat snakes and alligators, but their favorite dish is roasted monkey with the hair on.

Colorado Stockgrowers' Association

311 Exchange Bldg.
Denver Union Stock Yards

Individual Membership
Dues, \$5.00 Annually

We have started a 100 per cent membership campaign. Every stockman in Colorado should join. Your state association is entitled to your active co-operation.

Join Now! Don't Delay!

Powers Behen
The Store
for Men

—more
than just style—

Kuppenheimer good clothes are more than mere clothing—more than mere style ideas—they are "good American masculine appearance." This is the way one New Yorker expressed it.

Better come in and see the new idea and the various adaptations of it.

The fabrics are wonderful. The tailoring better than ever.

And do not forget that these clothes are the cheapest clothes—every way—in the long run.

16th at
California
Denver

THE WOMAN'S CORNER

THE PRODUCER invites its women readers to send it contributions, ideas, suggestions for this department. Co-operate with us in making the "Corner" just what you want it to be. Address all communications to Editor Woman's Corner, THE PRODUCER, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colo.

THE LOVING HOUR

[Mabel Compton]

AS I WAS WALKING along the street the other day with a friend, I followed her glance as she bowed to someone in a passing automobile. I looked up to see what seemed to me the most beautiful face I had ever seen. I turned to my friend with questioning eyes. She smiled. "You are wondering how any woman can have such a face at her age, I know," she said.

"Yes," I replied, "there is a woman, frankly a slightly plump matron of fifty-five years or so, with white hair and a face like a girl's—pink and white and smooth, and eyes that shine. It must be happiness."

"You have guessed it," my friend admitted. "She is the happiest woman I know. And she made her own life happy by creating happiness for others. I asked her one day the secret of her happy family. She was a very busy woman, and might easily have found any number of excuses for neglecting home duties or intrusting them mainly to others. But I knew it was never so; for her daughters were like two younger sisters, and her son the most devoted admirer."

"She laughed softly at my question. 'Yes, we are a happy lot, aren't we? I don't suppose any one thing is more responsible for it than the "loving hour"—as the children still call it. When they were little things and first started to school I missed them so. And I fell into the habit, almost unconsciously, of watching and waiting for them at a certain hour. Sometimes I was looking out of the window; sometimes I stood in the open door; sometimes I was at the gate, or walked a little way down the block to meet them. But always I made a little event of their home-coming. Once inside, they got out of their wraps, put aside their books, and clustered around to tell me the happenings of their day. Mother was an eager listener, and usually had a few things to tell them, too, and a few simple plans for tomorrow. And it all fitted in so well with hugs and kisses and happy thoughts that, though it often happened that we had only a few minutes for it, we called it the "loving hour," and none of us ever wanted to miss it. And, perhaps oddly, the children have never outgrown it, but cling to it still. It seemed to form a sort of background for all our relations through life.'"

THE NEW DRESS

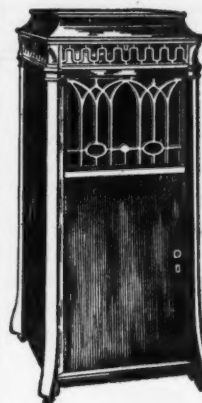
Everybody's "best dress" seems to be taffeta this spring, whether it is black or tan or gray or something gayer. And the style plays right into the hand of the home dressmaker; for the trimming used on all the smartest taffeta frocks in the shops is some simple design of cording or knife-plaiting or ruffles or shirrings of the same material, which can be used very effectively and lends a quaint charm to the simple dress.

This self-trimming makes up in some measure for the price of the silk. It never pays to get a cheap piece of taffeta. It splits so easily. A fairly heavy piece that is of rather soft finish wears best.

One very attractive black taffeta dress had for its foundation a perfectly plain waist and slightly gathered straight skirt. The trimming—which really made the dress—was a three-inch band of taffeta edged with a one-inch knife-plaiting on both sides, and which had been applied around the square neck, the sleeves, the belt, and around the skirt ten inches below the waist.

A very pretty tan one had a cord of the taffeta applied in a simple design on the waist and above the hem, and woven into a very effective girdle. And a little gray dress had three narrow scalloped flounces for the bottom of the skirt and two of the scalloped flounces for a fichu.

The New Edison Diamond Disc



is the thoroughbred of Phonographs

The artist's voice or instrument is recorded and reproduced true to life.

No other phonograph or talking machine is capable of this

Mail this coupon and we will send you further information regarding THE NEW EDISON.

Name

Post Office

R.F.D. State

Carl Schultz Piano Co.

141 Broadway, Denver, Colo.

The front of the waist was cut in two long strips, which crossed and folded around the waist and tied in the back in a small bow.

STRAWBERRY TIME

I hope that every one of you has a strawberry bed. If you haven't, you ought to have. To live in the country and not have a strawberry bed is cheating yourself out of one of the chief privileges of living there. And now that the ever-bearing varieties are being so successfully and generally cultivated, it is just as easy to have strawberry shortcake all summer as for a few weeks in the springtime.

There is nothing more delicious, and certainly nothing more wholesome, than strawberries in just their natural state, with cream and sugar; so that it seems almost a waste of time and effort to serve them in any other form. But the time-honored shortcake always has its devotees, nevertheless.

The Old-fashioned Kind

2 cups flour	3 teaspoons bak-
$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt	ing-powder
1 cup milk	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup lard

Sift together salt, baking-powder, and flour. Put shortening in with tips of fingers. Add milk to make soft dough. Roll out lightly in two pieces one-half inch thick. Lay one piece in well-buttered layer-cake pan. Brush top with melted butter. Add second piece, and brush top

of it also with melted butter. Bake in hot oven about fifteen minutes. Remove from oven. Separate the two pieces carefully, and set aside to cool. When wanted, add a thick layer of well-sweetened strawberries and whipped cream to bottom layer, replace top layer, and add another layer of strawberries and whipped cream.

The Cake Kind

½ cup butter	2 cups flour
1 cup sugar	3 eggs
¾ cup milk	¼ teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons baking-powder	1 teaspoon orange or lemon extract

Cream butter, sugar, and egg-yolks. Add sifted flour and milk alternately. Beat well. Add baking-powder and flavoring, and fold in stiffly-beaten whites of eggs. Bake in two layers. Add sweetened strawberries and whipped cream between the layers and on top.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

A supply of soft newspapers is very convenient in the care and cleaning of lamps. Several thicknesses of paper under the lamps, when they are being cleaned and filled, will protect the table; and the papers, twisted tightly, will make an excellent starter for the kitchen-range fire, instead of the dangerous practice of pouring kerosene into the fire-box. The newspapers, crushed and rubbed soft, are also useful for rubbing the grease from the outside of the lamps and for cleaning the chimneys. Smoke stains on the chimneys may be removed with a little vinegar and salt. When burners are clogged, they should be put in cold water, to which a tablespoon of washing-soda has been added, and boiled for half an hour. Keep wicks well trimmed. A good light is absolutely essential to a cheerful room in the evening, and caring for the lamps is one of the most distasteful duties of the housewife. If the task is performed early in the day, the lamps are always ready when wanted. Filling a lamp after dark by the light of another is a nuisance and a danger.

In the spring, when one is wishing for something different, or at least a different way of preparing the same old things, this hot-potato salad may be found a welcome change on the table: Cut the required amount of potatoes into dice. Boil until tender. Drain and stand, partly uncovered, back on range to keep hot. Clip one-fourth pound of thinly sliced breakfast bacon into shreds with shears. Cook in frying-pan until crisp. Add a bit of salt and pepper and a few spoonfuls of vinegar. To the potatoes add one-half cup of fine-chopped green onion. Mix with the bacon dressing, and serve in bowl lined with lettuce.

An Alternative.—**FLO**—"You can't believe everything you hear."
GERTIE—"No, but you can repeat it."—**Sydney Bulletin.**

Rush Periods

There are rush periods in every line of business, especially where the public is being served, and when these rush periods come the capacity of the utility is invariably overtaxed and someone must wait for service.

A man will wait in line patiently several minutes to make a deposit in a bank, to buy a two-cent postage stamp, to register a letter, to buy a railroad ticket or a seat in the theatre, and make no complaint. He will go personally to see a business man and will sit in line for half an hour before he can be "seen," and think nothing of it.

The vast system of the Mountain States Telephone Company which cares for 306,301 telephones in its own territory alone, is set up to answer calls in a very few seconds. Any variation therefrom is usually because a number of calls have come in simultaneously.

In telephone operation, as in everything else, when an overload occurs, patience should be exercised by everyone until the jam has been relieved. The operator is not always to blame—the equipment may be short owing to scarcity of materials, but it is not at fault—even the public that creates the rush periods is not to be blamed.

Abnormal conditions is the answer. Patience and reasonable consideration is the temporary remedy until adequate equipment may be had.

THE MOUNTAIN STATES TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

THE LETTER-BOX

Hints for the Garden

A little ammonia in water makes a good fertilizer for plants, and helps keep away the bugs. The dirty water from house-cleaning will answer just as well as a fresh supply.

For cultivating potted plants, keep an old fork near at hand, and use it to loosen the earth. This gives the roots a chance to force their way through the earth, and furnishes air.

A thin layer of sand sprinkled over the soil where seeds are planted will help retain the moisture and prevent the soil from forming a crust on top.

A pane of glass placed over the earth in which seeds are planted will help keep the soil moist and warm, and hasten germination.—**MRS. S. T. MARTIN.**

The kitchen porch should not be neglected. It is such a handy place to care for a few pots and boxes. It is a fine place for parsley and other herbs.

Vines planted near clothes-poles and unattractive fences will soon make of a commonplace back-yard a pretty garden spot.

Common carrots planted with sweet alyssum make the prettiest kind of border for flower-beds.—**A. T. S.**

When cutworms bother the asparagus, plant lettuce between the rows, and the worms will leave the asparagus for the tender young lettuce leaves. Radishes planted among the melon vines will keep the bugs away from the melons until they get a good start. Earthworms may be

destroyed by the use of tobacco water. A drop of sulphuric acid on dandelions will rid the soil of them. A medicine-dropper may be used for the purpose.—**M. E. BROWN.**

* * *

Pole lima beans planted on the stumps of old trees or near dead bushes will yield a good crop and make an unsightly spot ornamental.

When gourds are young they may be tied at the neck into knots to form a ring for hanging them up by, if you want a gourd dipper.—**M. C.**

HOME-MADE CANDIES

Pralines

2 scant cups powdered sugar	½ cup cream
1 cup maple sirup	2 cups of pecan meats
	1 teaspoon vanilla

Put cream and sirup into sauce-pan, add sugar, and boil until mixture will form a soft ball when tried in cold water. Remove from heat, beat until creamy, add vanilla and nuts, and drop from spoon on oiled paper.

Peanut Brittle

2 cups granulated sugar	½ cup boiling water
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Dissolve sugar in water. Boil until it threads. Stir in one-half teaspoon cream of tartar. Let continue to boil until it turns a deep yellow. Take off fire, add small piece of butter, and pour over the peanuts in buttered tin.

THE KIDS' CORRAL

THE WISHING-SPRING

[Evelyn Stein]

IT WAS MIDSUMMER EVE, and the Irish meadows glimmered green and flowery beyond a little cabin close to a grass-grown road. It had clay walls and a roof thatched with straw, and near by were a potato patch and a pen holding a white pig with a curly tail; in the doorway a few hens were clucking, now and then straggling in and out of the open door as they pleased.

Within the cabin a little girl was tending a baby, while her mother stirred a pot of porridge hanging over an open fire of peat, and her father sat smoking his pipe beside the hearth. Presently, "Come now, Biddy!" said her mother. "Bring Peter here whilst we have a bite and sup. It's to the bonfire soon your father would be going." And she took the baby on her lap, and dished the porridge into earthen bowls, and poured the tea from a cracked teapot.

As Biddy took up her wooden spoon, "Mother," she asked, "did ever you see the midsummer fairies?"

"Bedad, no!" said her mother. "Not I! But folks do say the little people will be creeping out and playing of their pranks tomorrow."

"Yes," said Biddy's father, nodding his head wisely, "and some say their magic begins this night. I dare say they will soon be dancing with the young folks around the bonfire, if only we could be seeing of them."

Here Peter, who had got a spoonful of hot tea when his mother was not looking, began to scream, and cried so hard that Biddy could ask no more questions; and her father, not waiting for him to stop, took his cap and went across the meadow to a hill where a bonfire was already lighted, and young people were dancing around it and singing at the tops of their voices.

Why were they doing it? Dear me, I do not know, except that they always did so on Midsummer Eve—and perhaps do now, for all I can tell. Neither do I know why Irish folks declare that on Midsummer Day, which is the twenty-fourth of June, the fairies—or "little people," as they like to call them—will creep out

from under the fields and hills, where they have beautiful palaces, and play around above ground, where they may do one a good or ill turn, according to whether they are pleased or not. Folks say, too, that the fairies swim around in certain little bubbling springs of Ireland, and that, if you sip the water from one of these on Midsummer Day and make a wish, at the same time offering some gift the fairies like, they will surely make the wish come true. Why they say all these things, as I told you before, I am sure I cannot tell; but, as everybody knows, Ireland has always been a fine place for fairies. I dare say the people there know a great deal about them. It might even be that, if you look sharp on the twenty-fourth of June, you may see some fairies in this country. Mind, I do not say you will; but, then, neither do I say you won't!

Now, of course, Biddy had heard much of the little people, and she could not understand why, though there was a "wishing-spring" not far from the cabin, and she had tried it for two Midsummer Days, her wish had not come true. The trouble was that she did not know about taking a gift of the right kind for the fairies. But the day of our story she had found out. That afternoon a very wise old woman had chanced to come hobbling along the road by the cabin, and had stopped to rest, and Biddy had brought her a drink from the spring and had fallen to talking with her. It was she who told Biddy that there were five kinds of herbs which, though just ordinary plants at other times, became magical on Midsummer Eve; and, if their flowers were gathered then under the light of a full moon, a bunch of them offered to the fairies would please them so they would not fail to grant any wish.

When Biddy heard that, she made up her mind to get some that very night, when the moon would be full, and the next day to try the wishing-spring again. And she had a very good chance to go and gather them; for, when Peter at last stopped crying and went to sleep, her mother was so worn out with him that, throwing herself down on the bed beside

him, she was soon sound asleep, too. Then, softly opening the door, Biddy ran to the meadow. The moon had risen, and it was so light that she had little trouble in finding what she wanted; for the meadow was full of wild flowers. "There," said she presently, counting to herself, "I have a rose, and vervain, and trefoil, and St. John's-wort, and meadow-rue—that's the five; and it's a sprig of honeysuckle I'll be putting in for the nice smell of it, and it's sure the little people will like it, too, if it's not magical!" And she sniffed the sweet cluster as she tucked it into her nosegay. Then, hurrying home, she put the flowers in a pitcher of water and crept into bed.

The next morning, just as soon as she had her breakfast of porridge and before Peter had wakened up to be tended, taking her nosegay she ran to the wishing-spring and, kneeling beside it, began dabbling it in the water. Just then, "Och, Biddy!" called out a red-haired boy who had come up behind her. "Are you after trying the wishing-spring again? The fairies won't heed you!"

"Whisht, Pat!" said she, looking up at the boy, who was her good friend and playmate. "You just watch and see now!"

"What will you be wishing this time, Biddy?" asked Pat, coming nearer to the spring.

"Silly!" said Biddy. "It's well enough you know that, if I tell, it's spoilt the wish will be!" Here she stooped low over the spring and, loosening the nosegay, let it float about, as, scooping up some water in her hand, she sipped it and whispered softly, so Pat could not hear: "It's a beautiful princess I'm wishing to be, and wearing of a velvet gown and a pearl necklace, and to be living in a grand castle and marrying of a king's son!"

Then, as she and Pat peered into the bubbling water, "Look! Look!" cried Biddy. "There is one of the little people now! See him down there in the sand playing with the bubbles? It's a red cap he's wearing and a blue coat! And, O Pat, there's another—a little lady fairy!"

Pat stared open-mouthed, and, "Biddy," he began; but all at once she seemed fading away from him, and on her part she could no longer see Pat. Tall stone walls began to rise around her; higher and higher they grew, into a castle tower; and soon she found herself in a large room, all hung with wonderful embroidered silk, and furnished with carved chairs and tables and chests, such as Biddy had never seen the like of before. She was sitting on a kind of throne, richly carved and cushioned with cloth of gold. Looking down at her feet, which

had been bare, she saw she was wearing golden slippers worked with pearls, and, instead of her ragged dress, she had on one of purple velvet, stiff with gold thread. Around her throat was a necklace of pearls, and on her head she could feel a fine lace cap. Her hair was braided with strands of jewels, and her eyes were very bright and her cheeks glowing; though Biddy had really been pretty enough before, with her tangled black curls and eyes of Irish blue. Indeed, Pat thought her quite as beautiful as any princess; though, to be sure, he had never seen a king's daughter.

When Biddy looked around her she saw six handsomely dressed waiting-maids standing on each side of her, and a very grand-looking lady who seemed to be directing them. Soon one of them came and, bowing very low, said: "Will Your Highness be served with breakfast now?"

Biddy, you remember, had already had her porridge; but, as princesses are not expected to get up so early, she thought best not to mention it; so she just nodded her head; and at once they brought in a golden tray and set it before her. There were fine white bread, milk in a golden goblet, a golden bowl full of barley porridge covered with honey, and a number of other things of which Biddy did not even know the names. She awkwardly picked up a gold spoon and dipped it in the porridge, but she was staring around so hard that, instead of putting it into her mouth, it bumped against her nose, and all the porridge fell in her lap; and then, as she put down the spoon in dismay, over went the goblet of milk on top of the rest. "Musha!" she cried. "It's my grand velvet gown that is all spoilt! Och! Och!"

But most of the waiting-maids only stared in surprise, though some tittered a bit till frowned on by the grand lady. Then one of them, again bowing, said: "Will Your Highness have on another gown before time for lessons? The masters will soon be here."

Biddy, turning red and feeling very uncomfortable, faltered out: "Yes, mam. Bedad, and it's sorry I am to be a-spoiling of this!" And she looked down shamefacedly at the purple velvet all dripping with milk and porridge. At this the waiting-maids could hardly keep from laughing outright, as they led her to a fine bedroom and put on her another velvet dress—this time a crimson one and, like the other, very stiff with embroidery and reaching nearly to the floor, which was the fashion for little girl princesses. Then they took her back to the big room, and again she sat on the throne-like chair, which was beginning to feel rather straight and hard, in spite of its rich carving and heavy cushions.

Presently in came the spelling-master—a solemn-looking man with a large book in his hand. At this Biddy was decidedly frightened, for she had never been to school a day in her life; there were no places in Ireland then where children who lived in cabins might be taught. "Now, Your Highness," said the spelling-master, opening the book and bowing as had the others, "will you deign to spell 'cat'?"

"O sir!" gasped Biddy. "Is it me that must be spelling of 'cat'? It's only priests, sir, that can read the mass-book, that can do hard things like that!"

The spelling-master, looked perplexed, and, after talking a few minutes with the grand lady, the latter came and said respectfully, but rather sternly: "Your Highness, if you will not learn to spell, how then can you read? And then there are your music- and drawing-masters waiting."

"Musha! Musha, mam!" cried Biddy in despair. "And is it all such things princesses must be doing of? I—I didn't know, mam, kings' daughters had to work the likes of that! Why, I'd rather—rather be a-tending of Peter!"

At this the grand lady looked very stern indeed, and stared very hard; but she only said: "Very well, Your Highness. I will dismiss your masters for today. And what are your commands for the morning, in place of the lessons?"

Biddy was silent awhile, and then she said faintly: "If you please, mam, I'd—I'd like to play, I would!"

The grand lady brightened up then, and said: "Does Your Highness mean to keep your music-master here and play on your harp?"

"O dear, no mam!" answered Biddy, frightened again. "It's to play outdoors I'm meaning! Tag and ball it is, and games like Pat and I know!"

The grand lady stiffened up again, and, turning to the six waiting-maids, said coldly: "Conduct the princess to the garden. She wishes to play ball and tag." And Biddy's cheeks burned, the way she said it.

She followed meekly as the waiting-maids led the way down a winding stair—which made her quite dizzy, as she had never been on stairs before—and out into a large garden. There were fountains in it, and very fine flowers; but they were all in straight, stiff beds and did not look as if meant to be picked. As Biddy gazed at them, she could not but think she liked the meadow ones better. Then nobody but herself knew how to play tag, and the waiting-maids looked very scornful when she tried to show them; and, when she wanted to run, her long heavy dress was terribly in her way; while, as for the gold slippers, they tripped her up so she stumbled down twice, and the

maids laughed out loud at her. "Bedad!" moaned Biddy to herself. "It's the feel of the grass under my toes that I'm wanting!" For never had she worn shoes, except thick calfskin ones in winter, and she was quite unused to the high heels of slippers for princesses. Then, too, she soon found that in the game of tag the waiting-maids never tagged her, because it was not considered proper for princesses to be beaten in any game; and, of course, that took all the fun away.

Biddy soon tired of playing like that, and she sat down on a stone bench to think; though it was not very easy to think with six tittering waiting-maids standing stiffly behind her. Biddy could hear them, and the more they tittered the angrier she grew; till presently, in quite a rage, she tore off her lace cap and—I'm sorry to tell it, but she threw it down and stamped on it. Then she kicked off the golden slippers, and pulled off her fine silk stockings, and, running to a fountain near by, flung them all in; and then she sat on the edge of it and cried. "Och! Och!" she wailed, as the tears streamed down her cheeks. "If only you were a wishing-spring and I could wish again!"

In a moment a sweet, tinkling little voice seemed to come from under a water-lily in the fountain, and then a tiny fairy crept out and sat on the big green leaf. It was the same little lady she had seen in the wishing-spring that morning. "There, there, child!" said the fairy, smiling kindly. "I have been watching you today; for I wondered how you would like being a princess. If you want to wish again, you may."

"O mam," cried Biddy eagerly, "I wish I was back in the cabin again, and—and it's barefooted I'm wanting to go, and to be tending of Peter and feeding of the pig and playing in the meadow with Pat—and never, never to be a princess again so long as ever I live."

And, of course, the good fairy made Biddy's wish come true, and she became a ragged, happy little girl as before; and, when they grew up, she forgot all about the king's son she had once wanted to marry, and married Pat instead; and—of course, too—they lived happily forever after.

THE HUMMING-BIRD

[Evelyn Stein]

In among the morning-glories,
By his coming scarcely stirred,
See him sipping, dripping honey,
Like a little fairy bird!

Tiny wings that flash and flicker
In a blur of rainbow light;
At his feathered throat a ruby
Gleaming, beaming, crimson bright!

Look! The morning-glories quiver.
Now his fairy feast is done.
With a sudden skimming shimmer
He has vanished in the sun!

THE POETS' PEN

WHEN THE CROWS COME BACK

[Margaret Vandergrift in Scribner's]

I can stand it well enough in the dark of the year,
When I know the earth is frost-bound, and the woods are sere;
Though even then I'm thinking of the sled-ding track—
But my heart grows sick with longing when the crows come back.

I listen, listen, listen, as I walk the streets.
Oh, I know the lark's note well enough—it's rare and sweet;
And I love to hear the robins, with their saucy clack—
But something grips my heart-strings when the crows come back.

And twice good luck has found me as I walked the street;
Far overhead their wings went, with their steady beat,
"Unhalting and unresting," with a good ship's tack—
And I heard it like a whisper: "We've come back, come back!"

O Mother Earth, dear Mother, with your cool, soft arms,
When the grass waves, and the wind sings, and the sunlight warms,
I am sick for you, I pine for you, and most I lack
All your light and love and comfort when the crows come back.

SHE WALKS ABOVE THE SPRAY-FLECKED CLIFFS

[Tertius Van Dyke]

She walks above the spray-flecked cliffs,
In meadows sweet with flowers;
Her eyes see something far away
Beyond these fleeting hours.

She steps with quiet, even pace,
Serene as her heart's beat,
And often turns lest she should tread
A flower beneath her feet.

Each move of head or hand betrays
A thought of gentleness;
Each look she gives the wild sea-birds
Is like a mute caress.

The clutching waves beside her leap—
She has no doubt nor fear;
Such deeps has she within herself,
And hopes so brave and dear;

Such deeps has she, all clear and still,
Beneath the reach of storms,
The restless world must pass her by
In wracks of cloud-made forms.

She walks alone, yet not alone,
And waits so patiently;
She knows not anything but love—
This mother soon to be.

CHORUS FROM "LINCOLN"

[John Drinkwater]

You who have gone gathering
Cornflowers and meadowsweet,
Heard the hazels glancing down
On September eves,
Seen the homeward rooks on wing
Over fields of golden wheat,
And the silver cups that crown
Water-lily leaves;

You who know the tenderness
Of old men at eve-tide,
Coming from the hedgerows,
Coming from the plow,
And the wandering caress
Of winds upon the woodside,
When the crying yaffle goes
Underneath the bough;

You who mark the flowing
Of sap upon the May-time,
And the waters welling
From the watershed;
You who count the growing
Of harvest and haytime,
Knowing these the telling
Of your daily bread;

You who cherish courtesy
With your fellows at your gate,
And about your hearthstone sit
Under love's decrees;
You who know that death will be
Speaking with you soon or late—
Kinsmen, what is mother-wit
But the light of these?

Knowing these, what is there more
For learning in your little years?
Are not these all gospels bright
Shining on your day?
How, then, shall your hearts be sore
With envy and her brood of fears?
How forget the words of light
From the mountain-way? . . .

Blessed are the merciful . . .
Does not every threshold seek
Meadows and the flight of birds
For compassion still?
Blessed are the merciful . . .
Are we pilgrims yet to speak
Out of Olivet the words
Of knowledge and good-will?

A WALKING SONG

[Richard Le Gallienne in Harper's]

With a Shakespeare in my pocket, and a
blackened English brier;
With a brook to run beside me, and the
morning at its spring;
With the climbing road before me, and the
mountains catching fire,
I feel as I imagine it must feel to be a king.

Be it April or October, wild-rose or silk-weed
pod,
The larch's tender green or the maple's
battered gold,

With my brier for my comrade, and my
Shakespeare for my god,
I wonder what the people mean that talk of
growing old.

"The Muses love the morning," wrote Eras-
mus long ago,
And the only place to meet the gods is on
the hills at morn;
There still the sacred asphodel and mystic
myrtle grow,
And Memnon sings with joy because another
day is born.

Oh, up into the radiance, forever on and on,
Be it hoarfrost on the pasture or blossom
on the vine,
With a brier breathing incense, and a song
to lean upon—
A song from "As You Like It"—is to lead
the life divine!

THE WORKINGMAN

[German Revolutionary Song by Richard Dehmel]

We have a bed, we have a child,
My wife!
And work have we, both you and I,
And sun and rain and a wind-swept sky.
Only a little thing lack we,
To make us free as the birds are free:
Time, only Time!

When through the sabbath-fields we go,
My child,
And over the ripe sheaves far and nigh
The swift, blue swallow-folk flash by,
What matter we lack a fine array,
To make us gay as the birds are gay?
Time, only Time!

Time only! We scent the coming storm,
We folk:
Only a slight eternity;
My wife, my child, now naught lack we
But that which through us thrives to gold,
To make us bold as the birds are bold.
Time, only Time!

THE INSULT

[From Songs of the Cattle Trail and Cow Camp,
collected by John A. Lomax]

I've swum the Colorado where she runs close
down to hell;
I've braced the faro layouts in Cheyenne;
I've fought for muddy water with a bunch of
howlin' swine,
An' swallowed hot tamales and cayenne;

I've rode a pitchin' broncho till the sky was
underneath;
I've tackled every desert in the land;
I've sampled XX whisky till I couldn't hardly
see,
An' dallied with the quicksands of the
Grande;

I've argued with the marshals of a half-a-
dozen burgs;
I've been dragged free and fancy by a cow;
I've had three years' campaignin' with the
fightin', bitin' Ninth,
An' I never lost my temper till right now.

I've had the yellow fever and been shot plum
full of holes;
I've grabbed an army mule plum by the tail;
But I've never been so snortin', really high-
falutin' mad
As when you up and hands me ginger ale.

THE SPICE BOX

From Front to Rear.—TRAMP—"Madam, I was at the front."

KIND-HEARTED LADY.—"My poor man! Another victim of that terrible war! Here's a dollar. Tell me how you got into these straits."

TRAMP.—"I was going to say that I was at the front door, an' nobody answered; so I came around to the back. Thankee, mum."—Home Sector.

He Was Just Honing Up.—A northern tourist got off the train in Arkansas to get a better view of a lean animal that was rubbing itself against a scrub oak.

"What do you call that animal?" he asked a native.

"Razor-back hawg, suh."

"What's he rubbing himself against the tree for?"

"He's stroppin' hisself, suh, jes' stroppin' hisself."—Everybody's.

Enough.—A big, powerful motor car slowed up as the occupants perceived a car of very modest proportions standing by the roadside in a rather battered condition. The owner of the car was on his knees, endeavoring to straighten out some of the parts.

"Have an accident, my man?" queried the man in the big car.

"No, thank you," grimly returned the other; "just had one."—Life.

Distraught Airs.—CROSS-EXAMINING LAWYER—"Now, ma'am, was the defendant's air when, as you allege, he promised to marry you, perfectly serious, or was it, on the contrary, jocular and full of levity?"

PLAINTIFF.—"It was all ruffled, with 'im runnin' 'is 'ands through it!"—Tit-Bits.

Everlasting Fire.—MISTRESS (to cook from the country)—"Well, what do you think of our gas fires?"

COOK.—"I think them wonderful, ma'am. Why, those in the kitchen haven't gone out since I came here over a week ago."—Karikaturen (Christiania).

Secrecy Recommended.—POSTWAR SPORTSMAN (at a hunt meeting, concluding a passage-at-arms with a member of the ring)—"I'm not one of those toffs that you think you can impose upon. I'm a self-made man, I am."

BOOKMAKER.—"Well, I wouldn't talk so loud about it. It's a nasty bit o' work."—London Punch.

Emergency Rations.—LADY OF THE HOUSE—"You say you haven't had anything to eat today?"

TRAMP.—"Lady, the only thing I've swallowed today is an insult."—Pearson's Weekly.

Thoughtful Child.—"Have you said your prayers?" asked Willie's mother.

"Of course!" replied the child.

"And did you ask to be made a better little boy?"

"Yes, and I put in a word for you and father, too."—London Tit-Bits.

Related to "Auto-Intoxication."—"What does autosuggestion mean?" asked Pringle.

"That's when your wife begins to figure out how much you would save in carfare, and all that, if you had your own machine," replied Teggard, who had been worked just that way.—Milwaukee Catholic Citizen.

A Solid Reason.—Two young men, supposed to be busily employed in the rear of the establishment while the principal looks after things in the front, were recently startled by the appearance of their employer while they were engrossed in a game of draughts.

The proprietor was indignant. "How is it," he demanded, "I scarcely ever find you fellows at work when I come in?"

"Well, sir, I'll tell you," volunteered one of the youths. "It's on account of those rubber heels you wear."—Tit-Bits.

A True Fact.—PERSISTENT CALLER—"So her ladyship is not at home again?"

NEW FOOTMAN.—"No, madam. And what's more, she really is out this time."—World (London).

Son's Pulchritude.—FATHER—"Well, now that you've seen my son, which side of the house do you think he resembles?"

FRIEND.—"H'm; of course, his full beauty is not yet developed, but surely you do not suggest that he looks like the side of a house!"—London Tit-Bits.

Schoolboy "Howlers."—Horse-power is the distance one horse can carry a pound of water in an hour.

Gravitation is that which if there was none we should all fly away.

A vacuum is a large empty space where the pope lives.

To kill a butterfly you pinch its borax.

Diffusion of gases is the odor in an ice box.

Beverages are diseases that catch.

Typhoid fever is prevented by fascination.

The digestive system consists of the artillery canal.

The brain is a soft bunch covered with wrinkles.

By eating slowly food is digested before it is swallowed and thus enriches the blood, which goes down one leg and up the other.

How Much Do You Owe Your Boss?—

Are you earning your salary? Think it over. Take a pencil and figure out the schedule below (always subtract):

There are days in a year.....	365
You sleep 8 hours a day.....	122
	243
You rest 8 hours a day.....	122
	121
There are 52 Sundays in the year....	52
	69
One-half day on Saturday all the year	26
	43
Legal holidays in the year.....	12
	31
One hour a day for lunch.....	16
	15
Two weeks' vacation.....	14
Leaves	1


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Boiled Ham
for making real sandwiches

SOMETIMES we are astonished at the hearty appetites of growing boys and girls—but big appetites are Nature's way of helping children to get what they need to grow into strong, healthy men and women.

Let your boys and girls feast on generous sandwiches made with Wilson's square-pressed boiled ham; give them all the nourishing, muscle-making qualities of this delicious food.

WILSON'S square-pressed boiled ham is carefully selected, trimmed and boned so that there is no waste when sliced. Its tempting flavor is emphasized through careful cooking by expert chefs. The illustration shows how it is specially "square-pressed" so that each slice makes four neat sandwiches. Buy it, sliced fresh to order, of your meat dealer, delicatessen store or grocer. The Wilson label guarantees its fine quality.

This mark  your guarantee

The Wilson label protects your table





IF YOUR CALVES DIE FROM BLACKLEG

after they have been vaccinated with cheap vaccines, just remember that the old reliable O. M. Franklin Blackleg Aggressin will save the ones that are left. So, when other immunizing agents fail to give you protection, try the

O.M. Franklin Blackleg Aggressin

and be convinced of its superiority, as numerous others have been. A safer and more economical plan is to use it in the beginning. The loss of one yearling will pay the difference in cost for a good-sized herd.

THE FOLLOWING IS ONE OF MANY LETTERS IN OUR FILES TESTIFYING TO ITS SUPERIORITY:

MR. HALL MEDFORD,
Manager Kansas Blackleg Serum Co.,
Amarillo, Texas.

Amarillo, Texas, April 24, 1920.

Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of the 21st, will state that I have been using 6,000 to 8,000 doses of the O. M. Franklin serum each year for several years. I have tried several times to experiment with other vaccines, but have always had to go back and vaccinate again with your serum, as the others were not satisfactory.

I am perfectly satisfied that the O. M. Franklin serum put out by your company is the best made. I know it is perfectly reliable, and your service the very best.

Anyone making the statement that I am using other Blackleg vaccine is very much mistaken, and I am writing this so that you may know just where I stand.

Wishing your company continued success, and with kindest personal regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed)

LEE BIVINS.

Reliable products are always
fore be sure that you find this
use.



IT IS YOUR PROTECTION

subject to imitation. There-
trademark on every bottle you

Price, 40 cents per dose; for 10 cents additional per dose we issue a written guarantee against loss from blackleg. Comes ready to use in 5, 10, 20, 45 and 90-dose bottles. Our special syringes, \$3.00. Free booklet on request. Order through our local agent or from our nearest office

THE Kansas Blackleg Serum Company

AMARILLO, TEX. DENVER, COLO. EL PASO, TEX. FORT WORTH, TEX. KANSAS CITY, MO.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. PHOENIX, ARIZ. PIERRE, S. D. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

SANTA MARIA, CAL.

WICHITA, KAN.

CALGARY, CAN.

CHAS. E. COLLINS,
President

JOHN E. PAINTER,
Vice-President

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Treasurer

J. WILLARD COBB,
Secretary

SHIP
YOUR STOCK
TO
CHICAGO
THE
LIVE STOCK MARKET
OF THE WORLD